Birth Anniversary of Ehrmann

Tribune Sep 22-1957

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

This week marks the birth anniversary of the late Max Ehrmann, well-known writer and poet, who was born in Terre Haute, September 26th, 1872. His birthdays were always serious occasions to him, for memories, and for looking forward.

The opening words in his famous Journal begun in 1917 and kept through twenty years, concerned his family. He was the son of Max Ehrmann and Margaret Barbara Lutz. After the unsucsessful revolution of 1848 in Germany, the father, a youth of nineteen years, set forth alone from his home in Bavaria for America. He landed in New York, worked his way westward, and remained in Terre Haute. A year later the the Lutz family, also from Bavaria, came to America, stopped in Terre Haute but went on to farms in Marshall, Illinois. The families in Germany had no knowledge of each other, yet the young Margaret Lutz and Max Ehrmann met in Terre Haute and were married. Their fifth and last child was to be Max Ehrmann.

Dorothy J. Clark

Father Was Cabinet Maker.

The father, Max Ehrmann, was a cabinet maker and during and after the Civil War he did the fine woodwork on the interior of Pullman cars for the Pennsylvania railroad.

A frequent visitor at their home was big, bluff Grandfather Lutz from Marshall. Born in 1799, Christian Lutz had lived through and witnessed much of recent German history and often told his grandchildren stories of his youth in Germany. He also told them of the first people going over to Marshall from Terre Haute, a distance of about sixteen miles. They had found their way through forests, breaking off branches from the trees to show their paths which in time became the present highway from Terre Haute to Marshall. For years the road was filled with deep ruts and fearful mud. It took one day for the Lutz farmers to drive to Terre Haute with their farm products and the next day to drive back.

Entered Harvard.

After graduation from DePauw, Max Ehrmann entered the postgraduate School of Philosophy at Harvard University and for two years specialized in law and philosophy. It was here that he met another famous Terre Hautean, Eugene Debs.

The varied career of Max Ehrmann helped to mold his thinking along the lines of social protest. Even though six of his books had been published, he realized he could not make a living by writing poetry and drama. So he took up the practice of law, was admitted to the bar, and became a deputy prosecuting attorney here in Terre

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He took an active part in [illegible] and was offered the nomination for state senator when he was twenty-five years old. For several years he was president of the Terre Haute Literary Club and read a paper every year.

In 1903 when James Whitcomb Riley spoke before a packed audience at the Grand Opera House here, Max Ehrmann introduced him. This led to an acquaintance with Riley that continued through the years. Max Ehrmann at the age of twenty-six was already known as a thinker and reformer on public questions. Soon he began giving his lectures and reading from his own poems on a midwestern tour.

For himself he wrote these lines and for years kept them on his desk: "Keep interested in your own career. See in the future some progress, however little. Know that to begin cheerfully again, when you have failed, is itself a great success. Maintain the respect of them that meet you day by day through sincerity, not servility. Condemn conditions rather than men. Believe and say some good of life. And though you lash injustice with bitter words, be still sweet at heart. Here is a battlefield for the courage of a hero."

The writings of Max Ehrmann have become more popular and his stature as a philosopher has increased over the years. "A Prayer" has become famous, and is found framed and hanging in many offices, schools and private homes all over the world. "Desiderata" has become very well-known by appearing on Christmas greetings cards last year and printed on parchment for framing.

Despite a serious heart condition, Mrs. Max Ehrmann has published four books of her husband's later works since his death September 9th, 1945. She has edited a book of his poems, his biography and his Journal. I was privileged to see the many scrapbooks she has compiled of press notices, clippings of his work which have been published in magazines, newspapers and other publications all over the country, and most interesting of all are the letters she has received from famous people in all walks of life. These letters from educators, ministers, news commentators, Congressmen, all prominent people in their various fields, acclaim the writings of Max Ehrmann and her efforts in presenting his later works to the reading public.

Most of Max Ehrmann's original manuscripst, scrapbooks, etc., have been placed in the DePauw Archives by his widow. As we talked, Mrs. Ehrmann and I, she remarked how far ahead of his time was her late husband. As early as 1927 he wrote an article, "Lif[illegible] the Veil," in the Harvar[illegible]aduates' Magazine, in

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which he set forth a theory the riddles of the universe m... be solved by the supermen of science and mechanical contrivances—all in line with the advanced, scientific thought of today. She mentioned how interested Max Ehrmann would have been in the Air Force Major's balloon flight—space travel nineteen miles above the earth into the black unknown.

Widely Quoted Poem.

In 1940 Max Ehrmann published a long poem "War" whose conclusion has become increasingly one of his most-quoted poems:

"The task is ours:
Let us lift ourselves above our jungle origin;
For hate and war, substitute understanding and good will.
Without these, it is the end of the earth;
And gone will be whatever man has made, both the evil and the good;
This globe of matter will become dust, and roam the endless spaces.
Whatever gods there be, must have witnessed countless such catastrophes of worlds,
Where living creatures' brains outran their hearts.
Science without love will destroy the earth."

Quoting from Mrs. Ehrmann's words—"This, then, is the message of Max Ehrmann. Here is a beautiful world in which there is abundance for man's needs. Only ourselves can bring about any better social order. Only ourselves can bring any peace to a world in chaos."

Ehrmann, Max

Famous Statesmen, Authors Were Terre Haute Natives

Clark, Dorothy J.

T. H STAR 6-26-66.

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Regardless of the natural resources which make a location suitable for the founding of a town, it would hardly be considered worth the space it occupies on the map unless the people who within its limits develop in cultural ways as well as in financial ways.

Terre Haute, which was settled in quite a primitive fashion by a group of most courageous pioneers, has developed into one of the larger cities in the state of Indiana and also has given to the nation a generous share of famous people.

DOROTHY J. CLARK

Some are claimed by birth, while others came here for temporary or longer stays and found Terre Haute a stepping stone in the development of their talents.

Some of them lived the greater part of their lives in Terre Haute, but most of them moved on to larger spheres where opportunity was greater and where they could be of more service in their various lines.

What these people have meant to Terre Haute and what Terre Haute has meant to them can best be told in brief biographical sketches.

DANIEL WOLSEY VOORHEES

Noted politicians of former days were most picturesque figures. Senator Voorhees was an unusually large man and so tall that during his political career he received the nickname "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash."

Those who have viewed his trousers on exhibition at the Harrison Mansion at Vincennes will testify as to their gigantic proportions.

During his service as statesman in Washington, Senator Voorhees performed many duties of great importance which influenced tremendously the development of his country.

Among them, and one which will stand as an everlasting monument to his name, is the Library of Congress at Washington, D. C., one of the most beautiful buildings in the United States.

He was made chairman of the committee on additional accommodations for the Library of Congress. At the time he took over the work, the congested condition of the library had all the appearance of a present day post office during a Christmas rush. Boxes and bundles of important papers and books were heaped in confusion all over the building.

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It was mainly through his efforts that an appropriation of $6,500,000.00 was granted by Congress to erect a library building of architectural beauty which has no equal in the world.

Senator Voorhees was born in Ohio in 1827, and died in Washington in 1897. He rsided in Terre Haute for a number of years after he began the practice of law.

During this time he was very successful and gained a wide reputation as a Democratic orator. He was district attorney for Indiana from 1858 to 1861 and was a member of Congress from 1861 to 1867; 1869 to 1876.

In 1877 he was appointed U. S. Senator to fill the unexpired term of Oliver P. Morton and was regularly elected in 1879, 1885 and 1891.

RICHARD WIGGINGTON THOMPSON

Colonel Richard .W Thompson was born in Virginia in 1809 and died in Terre Haute in 1900. His business career began in Bedford, Ind. as a grocery clerk. After business hours he studied the laws of Indiana by candle light until they were memorized.

He became interested in politics and was sent to Congress. At the expiration of his first term he located in Terre Haute where he practiced law when not in government service in Washington. One of his important posts was Secretary of the Navy in Pres. Hayes' cabinet in 1877.

His acquaintance with Lincoln grew into a close and confidential friendship. During the Civil War he served as commandant of Camp Dick Thompson near Terre Haute and provost-marshal of the district.

During his political career he was appointed U. S. Minister to Austria, a post he declined. As Secretary of the Panama Canal he received a salary of $25,000 which he refused to accept. It is said that Senator Voorhees and Col. Thompson both died poor. politicians.

THOMAS HENRY NELSON

Colonel Thomas Henry Nelson came to Terre Haute from Kentucky where he was a member of one of the old and aristocratic families. He began the practice of law and became one of Indiana's great political leaders.

As a Republican he served in Congress from 1917 to 1925. When Calvin Coolidge became President in 1925 he appointed Mr. Sanders as his secretary where he served during Coolidge's two terms. He then remained in Washington practicing law.

CLAUDE G. BOWERS

Claude G. Bowers was born in Hamilton County, Ind. 1878. He was one of the eminent leaders of the Democrat party and his years of journalism qualified him to write on the subject.

While living in Terre Haute he wrote for the TERRE HAUTE STAR and was a candidate for Congress in 1904-06. During the years 1911-17 he was secretary to U. S. Senator John D. Kern.

LYMAN ABBOTT

Lyman Abbott, the famous editor of the Outlook magazine, was for four years minister of the Terre Haute Congregational Church. It was here in 1860 that he had to face the question of slavery and decide his own position.

There were southern sympathizers in his community which made his stand for abolition most perilous and added to his trials.

A group of his denomination separated for a time and held services in the Courthouse but after three months returned to the church. Terre Haute should be proud to have had this eminent journalist and minister with them for four years.

THEODORE DREISER

Theodore Dreiser, author and journalist, was born in Terre Haute in 1871. Most critics consider him the leading modern writer of America and compare his works with Emile Zola. His style of fiction opened the way for the recognition of younger writers who have followed him.

PAUL DRESSER

Paul Dresser, eldest brother of Theodore Dreiser, changed his name for his stage career. Paul is known best for his famous song "ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH" which became Indiana's state song in 1913.

During the Gay Nineties he was considered the brightest light on Broadway and had more song hits being sung and whistled than any song writer on Tin Pan Alley.

MAX EHRMANN

Max Ehrmann was born in Terre Haute in 1872. He received his college training in DePauw and Harvard. He is best known for "A Prayer" which has been published in many editions and is still popular, and "Desiderata." He remained in Terre Haute and died here.

His power of oration, originality of expression, and pleasing personality won for him not only scores of personal friends, but friendly relations of foreign countries for his own United States which he served so well.

His political prestige classed him with Seward, Lincoln, Lane, Julian, Giddings and Morton as one of the founders of the Republican party.

In 1869 he ran for Congress against Voorhees and lost. Lincoln selected Nelson to represent the government as Minister to Chile. Before retiring to Terre Haute he also served as Envoy Plenipotentiary to Mexico.

born in New York, in 1816, a very poor boy. Being both precocious and energetic he gan to practice law at the age of 19.

He moved to Vigo county and continued his law practice. Among the distinguished political offices he held were Attorney General of the State of Indiana, First Assistant Secretary of State in Washington, and in 1863, Secretary of the Interior to succeed Caleb B. Smith in Lincoln's cabinet.

Leaving Terre Haute in 1869 he became active in railroad interests and died in Kansas in 1889.

EUGENE VICTOR DEBS

Eugene V. Debs was born in Terre Haute in 1855 and died in 1926. Public attention was first centered upon Mr. Debs when, as president of the American Railway Union, he won a large strike on the Great Northern Railway. He was always interested in better labor conditions and took an active part in the organization of the unions.

During 1894 he served six months in jail on the charge of contempt of court. While imprisoned he was visited by Max Berger who interested him in Socialism.

From 1900 to 1912 he was candidate of the socialist party for the presidency of the U. S. While World War I was in progress he was sentenced to 10 years in a federal prison for violation of the espionage act, but was pardoned in 1921 due to ill health.

EVERETT SANDERS

Everett Sanders was born in Clay County, Ind. in 1882. After attending achool at Indiana State Teachers College and Indiana University, he taught school and later began the practice of law here.

TH Natives

ur Trading Business Made Francis Vigo Rich

Vigo, Francis

T.H. Trib-Star 1/7/68

By DOROTHY CLARK

Because 1968 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of Vigo County local residents need to be reminded about the remarkable man for whom our county was named—Col. Francis Vigo.

Born in Sardinia in 1747, a subject of Italy, he enlisted in the Spanish Army and came to America. He landed at New Orleans, then Spanish territory, and began trading with the Indians while still in military service.

Before long, in his trips up the Mississippi River, he opened a fur-trading establishment at St. Louis, where he soon became an important factor in the fur trade with the Indians.

Among his trading posts on the east side of the river were Kaskaskia and Vincennes. Meantime, Spain had ceded her possession to France, and Vincennes was then a small village.

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During the Revolutionary War the British were in control of the "western lands" and had established a fort on the site of the present city of Vincennes and called it Fort Sackville. Before the final surrender to George Rogers Clark it changed hands twice, first to the Americans and again to the British.

Francis Vigo entered the picture on Jan. 29, 1779, when he met George Rogers Clark for the first time. I read somewhere that a historian said that this date should be celebrated every year as another sort of Independence Day for this part of the country. If they had not met—these two men who were very necessary to each other—the outcome of the Revolutionary War might have been very different. The United States might have been a feeble little republic skirting the Atlantic shore and running west to the Mississippi River and its northern boundary would have been the Ohio River.

Imagine, if you can, what we know as Indiana being part of Canada, a British possession!

Financial Aid to Clark

Francis Vigo furnished the money enabling Clark to organize and lead his men to Vincennes. The four drafts on the Financial Agent of Virginia amounted to $11,387.40 in 1779. Many historians have stated that the ingratitude and neglect in allowing nearly 100 years to go by before repaying this loan was the worst of all in our government's history.

Col. Vigo died in Vincennes on March 22, 1836, aged 96 years and virtually penniless, after having made and lost several fortunes.

On Dec. 20, 1786, Francis Vigo shipped 75 bales of furs from Vincennes to Todd & McGill of London, England, by way of Montreal. These furs most likely passed up the Wabash River in canoes or pirogues to Little River, west of Huntington; thence up Little River, which then was so wide and currentless that the Indians called it the Standing-still River; over the portage from Little River to what now is Fort Wayne and then was Ke-ki-onga, an Indian village; thence down the Maumee River to what is now Toledo, and then by Great Lakes to Montreal (Mount Royal).

The exact number of hides in the shipment was: deer, 10,904; bear, 1,675; cubs, 259; elk, 183; raccoons, 5,432; beaver skins, 1,124; pounds beaver (whatever was meant by that), 1,975; muskrats, 2,300; otters, 695; martens, 25; mink, 150; fishers, 78; foxes, 320; wolves, 22, and "tichouse" (whatever that may have been), 260.

In another place there is notation of five tiger pelts and also a notation of three panther hides. It is possible that the tigers were jaguars that had somehow come up north from Texas.

The value of the fur shipment was given in the Vigo records as 1,504 pounds sterling, 5 shillings and 7 pence. The old fur invoices of Francis Vigo, are treasured items in the William Henry Harrison House at Vincennes.

As new generations of children begin to speak and newcomers move into the area it becomes necessary to emphasize the correct pronunciation of the name of our county. The State Legislature, meeting Corydon, bestowed the name of Col. Francis Vigo upon our county in 1818, Feb. 15, to be exact.

Any student of modern language, including children over six, knows that in all European languages the letter "i" in such cases is pronounced long "e." Everyone accepts the proper pronunciation for Tito, Mussolini, the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and even the Marines.

Let us not fail to tender to patriot Col. Francis Vigo who did so much for our nation, our state and our county, our humble thanks and the respect of pronouncing his name correctly as if it were spelled "V-ee-go."

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Buffalo Bill Cody Toured City with Wild West Show

TiSTAR 7/5/70

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Buffalo Bill (William Frederick Cody) was famous as an Indian scout and hunter on the American frontier. Much of his fame grew out of his Wild West show and his own stories.

Cody was born in Scott County, Iowa, in 1846, and went with his family to Kansas when he was eight. His father died when he was eleven, leaving him the head of the household. He was fighting Indians at the age of twelve. He had less than a year of school, and knew only little reading and writing.

After a gold-seeking trip to Denver failed, he became a rider for the Pony Express at fourteen. The Pony Express was made up of a group of excellent riders. Each rider carried mail 75 to 100 miles a day over some part of the 1,950 miles between St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif.

When the War Between the States began, Cody became a scout for the Union Army against the Kiowa and Comanche Indians. He later joined the army and served as a scout in Tennessee and as a soldier in Missouri.

Cody earned the nickname "Buffalo Bill" in 1867 when he contracted to furnish meat for the workmen building the Kansas Pacific Railroad. In 17 months he killed more than 4,000 buffaloes.

To the Indians of the plains, bison or buffaloes as they were incorrectly called meant food, clothing and shelter. Their dried droppings were used as fuel for the fire. Their meat was eaten either fresh or sun-dried. Hides were made into clothes, tepees, shields, blankets and covering for boats. The whole life of some tribes centered around bison, and they followed the bison as they moved in search of new grazing lands.

Dorothy Clark

Indians usually hunted with bow and arrow. When the white men came with rifles, more and more of the animals were destroyed. By 1800 there were almost no bison east of the Mississippi River. As late as 1860, however, the western plains still seemed black with bison. Steamboats were stopped by swimming herds and trains often had to wait for hours while these animals crossed the tracks.

By 1888 the last southern herd was destroyed. After laws were passed for their protection, carefully protected herds — about 15,000 bison — graze in several national parks and game preserves of the United States and Canada.

Between 1868 and 1876, Buffalo Bill was an army scout, was elected to the Nebraska legislature but did not serve, and was an actor in several stage plays. When the Sioux War started in 1876, Buffalo Bill rejoined the army under General George A. Custer. Some of his bravest deeds were performed at this time. In the Battle of War Bonnet Creek he killed and scalped Yellow Hand, chief of the Cheyennes, in single combat.

The wars over, Buffalo Bill went back to the stage. In 1883 he organized his Wild West Show (first in the nation), and this show with its bands of cowboys and Indians toured the east and Europe and made him famous.

I'm indebted to a reader, Mr. Edward Moyer, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, for the information about Buffalo Bill's local appearances. He has in his collection an old folder advertising Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show which appeared at the Vigo County Fair Grounds on May 17th and 18th in 1886 at 2:30 p.m. "rain or shine!"

This was only the fourth season for the show, and he could have played here earlier, but I have no proof. I'm sure he played here many times after 1886 and drew huge crowds each time. I have fan mail telling of his show appearing here in 1908.

Another reader told me about the early "clay pigeons" or target balls, one and a half to three inches in diameter and generally mold blown glass. It seems these small glass balls were thrown from a sling and used as targets.

Buffalo Bill would pop these balls in the air by pistol shots. He would ride his horse around the ring during his show preceded by a page who tossed the glass balls in the air.

Buffalo Bill seldom missed, but the general public never knew why. The secret was that his pistol, a fourty-four, was loaded with shot shells. These scattered so fast that at least one of the pellets was bound to hit and break the ball if the pistol was merely aimed in the general direction of the tossed target.

Many stories and exciting books were written about Buffalo Bill. His own book entitled "The Life of Hon. William F. Cody Known as Buffalo Bill" added to the legend.

Cody was also interested in large-scale cattle ranching and founded the town of Cody on his famous ranch in Wyoming. He died in 1917 and is buried on Lookout Mountain, twenty miles from Denver, Colorado.

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Why Lew Wallace Wrote As He Did Is Explained

Community Affairs File

Clark, Dorothy

Ts APR 8 1973 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

All Hoosiers are exposed to Lew Wallace and his most famous book "Ben Hur" at some time during their school life. Their memories of the stage play or the movie or its re-run on television depend on their age or generation. Many readers can probably remember seeing the stage play, complete with chariot race, at the old Hippodrome Theater here. Others remember the first showing of the movie at the old Grand Theater. Still others saw it for the first time on the television re-run with Charlton Heston.

My knowledge of the author, Lew Wallace, was limited until my son had to write a term paper on the subject and the exhaustive research boiled down to eleven pages of really good information. He got an "A" on the paper for his efforts.

Lewis "Lew" Wallace was born in Brookville, Indiana, on April 10, 1827. His father, David Wallace, served in three legislative sessions, became Indiana's lieutenant governor (at a salary of two dollars a day!), moved to Covington, Indiana, where he formed a militia company for the Black Hawk War, and, as a member of the Whig Party, was elected Governor of Indiana in 1837. The son, then, came by his military and political interests naturally.

Lew Wallace did not like formal education and was often truant from the various schools he attended. He learned a lot from voracious reading in his father's library and in the Indiana State library.

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His mother died of tuberculosis during his childhood. His father's second wife, nineteen-year-old Zerelda Gray Sanders, helped with Lew's reading. He took part in amateur theatricals, wrote poetry which was never published, and developed a great liking for Mexican history.

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Wallace later studied law but failed his bar exam because he was hurrying to organize a company for the Mexican War. He was elected second lieutenant. His company marched off to war, but Lew's heart's desire for distinction in battle was doomed to disappointment. The men saw no real action and returned without the cheering and flag waving he had anticipated. However, in 1849 he passed his bar examination.

Wallace married Susan Elston, the third daughter of Major Isaac Elston of Crawfordsville, Ind., in 1850. In 1856 he was promoted to captain and organized a company of soldiers whose official title was the Montgomery County Guards, but known popularly as the Zouaves because the romantic Captain Wallace dressed them in the baggy gray pants, blue and red jackets, and red-visored French caps of Algerian troops. This spectacular company was known throughout the state.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, Governor Oliver P. Morton chose Wallace to serve as Adjutant General. In a week's time he assembled 130 companies and was promoted to colonel, then brigadier general and after the battle of Fort Donelson was promoted to major general at the age of thirty-four.

After the Civil War he was appointed by President Hayes as Governor of the New Mexico Territory from 1878 to 1881. In 1881 he was appointed by President Garfield as Minister to Turkey, where he served until 1885. After this service he retired from diplomatic service to live in Crawfordsville, where he died at his home on Feb. 15, 1905. Five years after his death, a statue of him was erected in the Hall of Fame in Washington, D. C.

According to my son Dennis, "it is much easier to understand the reasons why he wrote as he did after learning about his life . . . his works are the product of his fanciful, dramatic life and of his daydreams . . . writing was only a hobby with Wallace, since his vocations were those of a lawyer, soldier, governor and diplomat."

For his most popular book, "Ben Hur," Wallace selected the subject of the origin of Christianity, the climax of the Bible, and because of his interest in the story of the Magi. He included miracles, local color, heroic and villainous actions, pageantry, history, Biblical narrative, vengeance, religious adoration, physical and military action and excitement.

About sixteen chapters of this book had been written when Wallace met Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll on a train to Indianapolis where both were to speak at the Third National Soldier's Reunion. Having listened to Ingersoll's atheistic remarks, Wallace, though never a member of any church, determined to turn his novel into a refutation of Ingersoll's beliefs. Later, in magazine articles, novelist Wallace was to say that the composition converted him to belief in God and the divinity of Christ. After seven year's work, Harper's published "Ben Hur" in 1880.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll (1833-1899) was a New York attorney, Civil War veteran, and prominent in Republican party politics for several years. As a lecturer he was widely known for his anti-religious views.

A lesser known book, but widely read at that time, was Wallace's "The Life of Gen. Benjamin Harrison" written in 1888. Benjamin Harrison asked Wallace to write this book after being impressed by his writing of "Ben Hur." Naturally Wallace's political activities and national popularity impressed Harrison, who needed his influence in the presidential election. The book was slightly revised in 1892 for the second Harrison presidential campaign.

Lew Wallace wrote two other novels. The first, "The Fair God," is about the country of Mexico many years ago when the Aztecs ruled. The second, "The Prince of India," was written after his return from the Holy Land as

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Minister to Turkey.

Wallace wrote many short pamphlets and essays. One example is his "James R. Ross—An Ideal Indiana Soldier." It was written as a memoriam to Ross whom Wallace had known during their war service. James R. Ross died at Indianapolis in 1900. Lew Wallace called it a "Tribute to His Memory."

When first viewing the stage sets for the play "Ben Hur," Lew Wallace was quoted as saying, "My God! Did I set all this in motion?" He had.

Col. Francis Vigo Here For July 4, 1834 Events

JUN 29 1975

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

In the library of the Indiana Historical Society at Indianapolis is the well-preserved handwritten invitation to attend Terre Haute's Fourth of July Celebration sent to Colonel Francis Vigo at his home in Vincennes. Dated June 13, 1834 and signed by five members of the Terre Haute committee, the invitation states, "The inhabitants of the county which bears your honored name, cherising a grateful sense of your virtues, and of your services, as an early pioneer in the settlement of our beautiful country, most earnestly hope that the festivities for the occasion may be heightened by the presence of one so high in their affections."

According to Vigo County historian H. C. Bradsby, "The entire community greeted him cordially and accorded him every honor possible to bestow, and from the kindly old face they were richly repaid by the beaming pleasure that lighted it up and brightened again his eyes."

Col. Vigo's longtme friend and prominent Vincennes citizen, Samuel Emison, accompanied Vigo on the trip from Vincennes to Terre Haute when he accepted the invitation. After a parade through the town in a horse-drawn carriage, a banquet was held on the court house lawn. Because of his advanced years, (Vigo was in is nineties at that time) he asked Mr. Emison to speak for him.

Responding to the welcoming speeches, Emison said that Vigo wished him "to tender to this respectable company his most profound acknowledgements for the honor conferred on him by the sentiments offered."

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"I am further instructed to say to this company, and to the citizens of Vigo county generally," Emison continued, "that nothing could have given him greater pleasure than to have availed himself of some of the many kind invitations heretofore given him to visit a county endeared to him, as well by the many valued friends which he says it is his pride to number among its inhabitants, as circumstances that he is honored by its bearing his own name."

Vigo prompted Emison to thank the people of Vigo County for the aid given to make the holiday trip, "and the cordial greeting he has received from all quarters since his arrival has produced feelings of gratitude which no circumstance of a long and eventful life has been calculated to render more permanent, and which he shall always cherish with peculiar pleasure."

Emison closed his remarks on behalf of Col. Vigo by saying, "my friend desires me to offer on his behalf the following sentiment: The County of Vigo and her intelligent citizens—may their prosperity be commensurate with their kindness and hospitality."

On display in the Vigo Room of the William Henry Harrison home in Vincennes, owned by the Francis Vigo Chapter, DAR, is Vigo's will dated Dec. 9. 1834, in which he left the $500 bequest to purchase a bell for empty cupola of the court house he had noticed on his visit to Terre Haute.

The gift was contingent upon payment of an $8,616 bill, for supplies to colonial soldiers under George Rogers Clark which was paid by the federal government after a delay of forty years, by which time the amount at five per cent interest had accumulated to $41,282.60. The exact amount, referred to the U.S. Court of Claims by Congress in 1872, was sustained by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1875.

Francesco or Francois or Francis Vigo was born in Mondovion, the present Italian peninsula, and enlisted in the Spanish army to be shipped to Cuba and then to New Orleans where he was honorably discharged in the "New World." He became a successful fur trader, touring

Continued On Page 8, Col. 1.

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In 1818, the year of the death of his wife, a recently elected state legislature meeting at Corydon approved "An Act for the Formation of a New County Off of the County of Sullivan" on January 1, 1818. "The said new county shall from and after the Fifteenth day of February next be known and designated by the name and style of Vigo County," an honor bestowed during Vigo's own lifetime.

The word "Vigo" is pronounced VEE-goh, the Latin intonation in deference to the pronunciation of the personal name, although VY-goh is

Ts JUN 29 1975

OIL PORTRAIT of Col. Francis Vigo which hangs at Vincennes University, shows his white hair, ruffled shirt front and hand holding his cane against a dark background. An oil copy of this painting hangs in the Historical Museum, but the detailing in the background is not so clear. A landscape military battle scene is shown as through a window in fine detail at the right of the painting. Other copies hang in the County Courthouse.

heard from those who do not know the correct version. Next week we'll continue the story of the bell . . .

Community Affairs File

Historically Speaking

~~Vigo Francis~~ 5-1-23-77

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Community Affairs File

Several years ago, the late Harold Carson and I decided to climb the old iron steps and ladders to the cupola atop the Vigo County court house and pay our respects to the man who gave his name to our county—Col.Francis Vigo—and see the bell which he requested in his will should be purchased and hung in the court house in Terre Haute.

Frequently referred to as the "Liberty Bell of the Northwest Territory", the huge bronze bell has great historical significance.

This adventure is not recommended for everyone. The steps are steep and the cupola about nine stories high. At that time the cable for sheriff's communication system ran up one side of the metal ladder.

Being out of condition and short of breath, it was a classic case of the halt leading the lame. In spite of arthritic knees, fear of heights, and a firm belief we'd bitten off more than we could chew, we managed the round trip without catastrophe.

Local history tells us that many young couples from the surrounding counties of Indiana and Illinois came to the court house to get married. Part of the honeymoon trip on horseback or in horse and buggy included a trip to the court house tower to see the magnificent view, taking the memory back to the farm to treasure the rest of their lives.

These honeymooners probably never gave a thought to the significance of the bell and the man who gave it to the county. The story is worth repeating.

Joseph Maria Francesco Vigo was born Dec.3, 1747, in Mondovi in the Piedmont region of the Sardinian state of Italy. As a young man he enlisted in the Spanish army and was sent to Havana, Cuba, later to New Orleans, and took part in the Spanish occupation of what was to become the Louisiana Territory.

After military service he stayed in America and engaged in the fur trade far up the Mississippi river. By 1772 he was in St.Louis and later engaged in a secret partnership with Spanish Governor Fernando De Layba.

When Lieut.Col.George Rogers Clark appeared unexpectedly in Kaskaskia and other old French settlements along the Mississippi in 1778, Vigo befriended him and gave all possible support to the American cause.

It was Francis Vigo who spied on Henry Hamilton and his army at Vincennes, and it was from his intelligence report that Clark was able to formulate plans and successfully retake Vincennes from the British in February, 1779.

Vigo was very wealthy and gave a great deal of credit and finnancial assistance to Clark. Without his aid, Clark could not possibly have been victorious.

Sometime before 1783, Vigo moved to Vincennes, became an American citizen, and established head-quarters for his extensive fur trade. He became very successful and had fleets of large boats which penetrated into remote regions of midwestern America. Traveling everywhere among the savages, he was never harmed, claiming his policy of never lying to or cheating the Indians was responsible.

Vigo married Elizabeth Shannon, daughter of one of General Clark's officers. She died in 1818 and left no children.

He served the American cause diligently. When the First Regiment of the first American army following the Revolution came to Vincennes in 1787, he befriended and aided General Harmar, its commander. Later he was to lend money, men, food, and other assistance to Major Hamtramck's poor soldiers who served in this far western outpost of the United States and kept the troops from starvation.

Francis Vigo was a spy for "Mad Anthony" Wayne and helped in the campaign which ended in the treaty at Greenville. He later represented his wilderness country's interests by going to Philadelphia for conferences with President Washington.

When the Indiana Territory was formed, Vigo befriended the new governor, William Henry Harrison, and turned over his mansion to Harrison for his use until Grouseland could be built.

Vigo took a great interest in Vincennes and Indiana and for

many years served on the board of Indiana's first university at Vincennes. Though said to be illiterate and able only to sign his name, he donated books to a Vincennes library he helped establish in 1806.

The influx of great numbers of people into southern Indiana spelled doom for Vigo's trading enterprises and he suffered from ill health. He had been forced by the British in Detroit to pay a vast sum of money for his physical release when they arrested him there in retaliation for his services to Clark in the Revolution. He was never able to get repayment from the federal government for money and credit he had extended Clark. These and other reverses broke Vigo.

In his old age, Francis Vigo was penniless and depended upon charitable friends for bread. He was hopeful, always, that the U.S. government would repay him. He made several petitions to the Congress to no avail.

Next week's column will continue with the story of Vigo and the bell in the court house...

Historically Speaking

Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

1-30-77-T.S.

Last week's column began the story of Col. Francis Vigo, the bell he provided for the Vigo County court house, and the perilous climb of two local people to the cupola to pay their respects to this great patriot.

It was Jan. 29, 1779 when George Rogers Clark first met Vigo, an historical date that should be celebrated each year as another sort of Independence Day for this part of America.

If they had not met, these two men who were so necessary to each other, the outcome of the Revolutionary War might have been very different. The United States might have remained a feeble little republic skirting the Atlantic shore and running west to the Mississippi river with its northern boundary the Ohio river.

Imagine, if you can, what we know as Indiana and Illinois being part of Canada, a British possession.

When Vigo realized the danger threatened Clark and his army by the recapture of Vincennes by the British, he left his business at once and went to Kaskaskia to offer his aid. Clark commissioned him to go to Vincennes and observe and report the exact conditions as often as possible.

Vigo took one servant and started off across the Illinois country on horseback. He was captured by hostile Indians under British command, charged with being a spy, and delivered to Gen. Hamilton at Vincennes. On the way he managed to eat the paper that would have convicted him. He wasn't confined to a jail cell, but held on parole at the fort and required to report to the commander each day.

Father Gibault was then at Vincennes. Previously helpful to Clark and deeply interested in Vigo's welfare, he made every effort to secure Vigo's release.

Finally one Sunday morning in January, after church services, he went to the fort at the head of all his parishioners and informed Gen. Hamilton that they would furnish no more supplies to the garrison until Vigo was freed.

Realizing he could not afford to forfeit the goodwill of the villagers, Gen. Hamilton released Vigo. After all, he claimed to be a Spanish subject and merchant with the right to travel and trade with the Indians.

Released on the condition he would "not do anything injurious to British interests on his way to St. Louis," Vigo kept his word. As fast as possible he traveled down the Wabash, down the Ohio, and then upriver to St. Louis, fulfilling the terms of his release.

Without even stopping to rest, he went downriver in his canoe to Kaskaskia where he told Clark the exact state of affairs at Vincennes. It was this information that decided the expedition of Clark to win back Vincennes from the British.

It was at that time Vigo turned over to Clark four drafts on the Financial Agent of Virginia amounting to $11,387.40. Realizing it would be some time before these drafts could be repaid, he could not have imagined that it would be nearly 100 years before the government repaid this debt.

Many historians have called the ingratitude and neglect in the case of Francis Vigo the worst in all our government's history. But at that time Vigo was still a wealthy man. He continued to work for his adopted country and was commissioned a colonel by Gen. Clark who put him in charge of Vincennes and appointed him as Indian Agent.

On July 4, 1832, Col. Vigo, aged 92 years, came to Terre Haute as honored guest at a huge reception. When he made his will two years later, he remembered the little court house without a proper bell and included a bequest for $500 for that purpose.

Col. Vigo died March 22, 1836, aged 96 years, and forty years later his claim was finally settled in 1876. The first little court house had been torn down in 1868, but when the present court house was built in 1884, the $500 was used to help buy the bell.

Vigo died penniless at the home of a friend and was buried in a pauper's grave. The Vincennes funeral director who buried him was not paid for his services or even for the casket.

After the government finally paid Vigo's "heirs" the money and interest which had accrued over the past century, his creditors were paid—even the heirs of the undertaker who had buried him.

The Vigo Bell, this community's most historic link with the Revolutionary War period, still hangs in the court house tower. It still strikes the hours, but Francis Vigo never heard it. Many of those for whom the bell tolls never heard of Francis Vigo, American, and the important part he played in making American history.

—Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Clark, Dorothy

Community Affairs File

Ts OCT 9 1977

Early days of unionism reviewed by Eugene Debs

In the 1913 edition of the Sunday TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE devoted to the Labor Temple, Eugene V. Debs reviewed the early days of unionism in Terre Haute.

Debs told how it was "almost 40 years ago, Feb. 27, 1875, to be exact, I was first enrolled as a member of a labor union. On the night of that day Vigo Lodge No. 16 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen was organized in Terre Haute by Grand Master Joshua A. Leach, over the old Baur Drug Store, where the Trust building now stands, corner 7th and Wabash Ave., and I was duly initiated as one of the 21 charter members, all of whom, with but two exceptions besides myself, are now either dead or have left for other parts."

He continued, "No event that I can now recall had so great an influence on my subsequent life as my enlistment as a recruit in the army of organized labor.. At fourteen I was an apprentice in the railroad shops and at sixteen I was firing a locomotive."

"To join a union of my fellow-firemen for mutual aid and benefit seemed to be the very thing for me. I had known of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which had been organized way back in 1863, and I rejoiced greatly to think that the firemen, regarded as far beneath the engineers in that day, were now to have a brotherhood of their own."

"That was an early day for unionism in Terre Haute. The engineers and firemen were the only railroad unions in existence at that time, and these were both practically wiped out in the Pennsylvania Railroad strike which followed in the summer of 1877."

From the day Debs joined the firemen's union, he felt that all other workers should also be organized and began actively to unionize the various crafts of wage-earners. The printers had a small local at that time as did the coopers, but other than the cigarmakers who were organized a little later, there were no other unions in Terre Haute at that time.

P. J. McGuire, then general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, came to Terre Haute to organize the carpenters. Debs assisted him by making personal calls on the men at their homes and they barely succeeded in getting enough men together to start a local.

In the late 1870s, the coopers had labor troubles with James Clutter, one of the leading bosses at that time. They came to Debs for advice and, after drawing up their grievances and vainly trying to effect a settlement, he advised them to strike.

Debs took charge of the strike, the first in which he had an active part and the first successful one ever fought in this city. Clutter's shop was tied up and his business paralyzed and he was forced to give in to the demands of the cooper's union. The strike was a complete victory and a great boost to local unionism.

In July, 1880, Debs became grand secretary and treasurer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and editor and manager of the magazine. The headquarters were removed from Indianapolis to Terre Haute. His office became headquarters for organized labor here and, during this time, all the unions in this city and vicinity were either organized or reorganized.

The preliminary meetings, until hall arrangements could be made, were all held in his office. Printers, carpenters, bricklayers, machinist, moulders, cigarmakers, clerks, laborers were all lined up, one after the other, as new recruits.

In the early 1890s, Debs organized the first union of street railway employees in this city and soon they went on strike with Debs in charge of the employee's side. R. W. Rippetoe was then president of the street railway company. The strike was won. A second strike at a later time was also successful. Still later came the third strike which resulted in a crushing defeat.

When the second strike was in progress, the remains of Governor Hovey of Indiana, who died in office, were brought here from Indianapolis enroute to Evansville for interment. Debs called a special meeting of the strikers and they unanimously agreed to operate the cars and handle the crowds that were in the city that day. After the funeral train had departed the street cars were again returned to the barn.

The third strike was bitterly contested and strike breakers were imported. The feeling ran high. The company had passed into the hands of a foreign

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corporation that was hostile to labor and from the very start the purpose was to wipe out unionism.

While the strike was at its height, a union parade and demonstration was planned. Local newspapers warned against it and predicted bloodshed. The coal miners came in from all the surrounding area and when the parade turned into East Wabash Avenue and started west toward the city, the mayor and manager of the street railway company hurriedly ordered all the street cars manned by strike breakers into the barns. Had that parade with about 6,000 union men collided with a street car in charge of strike breakers that day there would certainly have been trouble.

There was an ominous silence along the city streets. There was an air of desertion in the residence areas and many had their blinds drawn. There was a long breath of relief when it was all over. There were a few altercations, but no serious trouble.

This strike was the most bitter that ever occurred in Terre Haute. The merchants and businessmen were lined up solidly with the foreign corporation until the strike was crushed.

In the early 1890s, Debs was in charge of the molders' strike with complete success, all demands being conceded and the strikers returning to work in a body.

In 1884, he organized the first lodge of the Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen, now the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in New York and, locally, the lodge of that brotherhood, also the local of the Order of Railway Conductors, the Switchmen's Mutual Aid Association and a number of other unions.

During the first two years that the brakemen and switchmen were organized, Debs gave much of his time organizing locals for them in various parts of the country and making national organizations of them.

There's a growing feeling in the farm belt that Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has less influence over White House policy than his predecessor, Earl Butz. Talking to a friend, the blunt-spoken Butz observed recently: "I'm glad I'm out of Washington. They think more of me now than when I was there."

—Historically Speaking—

By Dorothy Clark

Ts MAY 2 1 1978

+ Clark, Dorothy

James Whitcomb Riley visited Terre Haute in 1898 for readings

Community Affairs File

On the evening of May 20, 1898, James Whitcomb Riley appeared at the Grand Opera House, located at the southeast corner of Seventh and Cherry streets.

After an absence of many years, he had accepted an invitation from Terre Haute to read selections from his own writings.

Special excursion rates were offered by the railroads to those in neighboring towns who wished to attend the performance.

It was a sellout, as could be expected, and afforded Riley the opportunity to visit with good friends in Terre Haute.

He never missed a chance to "sip a few" and swap stories with Eugene V. Debs, to name only one of his longtime friends.

In 1897, T. W. Barhydt Jr., manager of the Grand Opera House, noted in the printed programs that "the management of this theatre is striving in every way to please patrons... they would esteem it a great favor if ladies will please remove their hats. An attendant can always be found in the ladies' retiring room to check them."

Readers must remember this was the era of enormous hats. The wide brims, feathers, flowers, veilings and other ornaments would block the view completely of those in the row directly behind their wearers.

Barhydt's comments went on to say, "Persons entering this theatre after the rise of the curtain will please take seats in the rear of the parquet until the curtain falls, when they will be shown their seats. We trust our patrons will appreciate this rule as it is a great annoyance to others to seat persons during the progress of the play. The curtain always rises at 8:15 p.m., and at matinee at 2:30 p.m."

Boys sold Allegretto chocolates and other fine confections from White's Confectionery Store, 625 Wabash Ave., during the progress of the play.

In the programs, Madison's Oak Hall Pharmacy advertised their stock of Meyer's Grease Paints and Theatrical Requisites for Professionals. Just in case actors and actresses ran out while performing here.

Charles Baur was the proprietor of the next door Terre Haute House, advertised as Indiana's best hotel. It boasted the most elegant bar in the state, the most elegant barber shop in the state, and the only buffet bar in the state. A bell would ring in each bar two minutes before the curtain went up.

The ladies entrance to the hotel led to Cafe Baur, where theatre parties were a speciality. Oysters, game, fish, lobster and salads were featured with hot and cold lunches between acts and after the theatre. An electric bell alerted customers to curtain time.

Prof. James Daugherty and Prof. Otto Ehrenhardt greeted customers to the Buffet Bar and Men's Grill Room, which featured quick service. The entrance between the theatre and the hotel afforded easy access under cover.

Prices at the Grand Opera House before the turn of the century ranged from 25 cents, 50 cents, 75 cents, to $1 for the very best seats.

In the 1898 programs, Prof. Albert G. Shook, basso, a pupil of Signor Campobello, offered voice culture and artistic singing in his studio suite in Rooms 511-513 Opera House Block. Patrons were invited to use the elevator (to save breath for singing?)

Hunt's (now Heinl's), 28 S. 7th St., offered three varieties of violets to theatre-goers at 15 or 25 cents per bunch.

L. B. Root & Company advertised "For Wheel Women - we show suits especially adapted to wheeling. The skirt is cut right, the cloth is the right material and is wear-resisting, and the styles are jaunty and becoming."

Roots' also sold "short capes of black silk, brocade and satin, gracefully trimmed with handsome lace, gimps and jet." Prices ran from $2.50 to $10 on these dressy items.

Blue-jeaned couples attending today's drive-in theatres complete with popcorn and soft drinks would hardly believe the way it was 80 years ago at local theatres... the men in high starched collars, hats and gloves, the women in beautiful gowns, hats, nosegays of violets and miniature chocolates to nibble. This is progress?

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The early life, times of an important Indian chief

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark

Community Affairs File
NOV 25 1979

The great Shawnee Chief Tecumseh almost succeeded in blocking the white advance into the Northwest Territory. His formation of a federation of Indian tribes from Alabama to Minnesota and from Kansas to New England might well have changed the course of history. Instead it only slowed down the inevitable supremacy of the white.

The son of the Shawnee Chief Pucksinwah, head of the Kispokotha sept, or clan, Tecumseh was born in Ohio in the spring of 1768. His mother, Methotasa, was incorrectly called a Creek or Cherokee by early writers.

His parents were on their way to an important Shawnee council at Chillicothe, located at the present site of Oldtown, Greene County, Ohio, three miles north of Xenia, the county seat.

Tecumseh's father was killed by a white hunting party when he was six years old, and his older brother, Chiksika, took over his training. According to custom, he was required to commit to memory Shawnee history, traditions and codes, and to repeat them letter perfect.

The young Indian learned also from his mother and older sister, Tecumapese. They taught him patience, the need for pity for the powerless, and that cruelty for the sake of cruelty, whether to men or animals, degraded a person. He was exhibiting signs of leadership by the age of eight.

Led by Tecumseh's godfather, Black Fish, the Shawnees went to war against the white settlers of Kentucky in the spring of 1777. They were supported by the British who wanted to monopolize the Great Lakes fur trade and keep the Americans as far as possible from Canada.

Tecumseh grew up in a world of war, with his people suffering at the hands of the Indian traders by being cheated with bad whiskey and by contracting white man's diseases. By 1779, the Shawnee nation split up, with hundreds leaving Ohio to find new homes across the Mississippi.

Tecumseh and all his family remained behind in Ohio, and in 1783 took part in his first battle against the whites. At the tender age of fifteen, he outshone all the Shawnee warriors by killing four men in a fight and helped Chiksika kill another.

Later, at the Shawnee camp, Tecumseh witnessed the torture and burning alive of a white prisoner. He protested, although he was still too young to have a voice in tribal matters. He vowed never to torture any living creature, nor to consider as friend any man who would so degrade himself.

Tecumseh never wavered from his resolution and many times protected women and children and American prisoners of war.

In April, 1788, Chiksika was killed in battle, and Tecumseh assumed command of the Kispokotha Shawnees who were then allied with the Cherokees against the whites.

Tall, handsome and modest, Tecumseh had a large following in 1795 when they moved to the banks of Deer Creek in the vicinity of London, Ohio. Here he made his first mistake. He allowed his younger brother, Lowawluwaysica to assume second in command. His brother, who would become known as the Prophet, was short and ugly. Where Tecumseh was gentle and good-natured, he was devious and surly, and was fated to destroy his brother's plans of an Indian confederacy.

Marrying the Peckuwe maiden, Monetohse, was Tecumseh's second mistake. A slender and attractive woman, she was demanding and fault-finding. While he was able to overlook her behavior toward himself, he could not overlook her neglect of his son, born two years after their marriage, and dissolved the union by invoking an ancient Shawnee marital law and sending her back to her parents in disgrace. His son was given to his sister to rear.

After the signing of the Greenville Treaty in August, 1795, Tecumseh took a new wife, an older woman named Mamate. She gave birth to a son in 1796 and died soon afterwards. This new baby, Nay-tha-way-nah, was

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also placed in his sister's care.

In 1798, Tecumseh led his followers into the Indiana Territory and joined the Delawares. He began traveling and addressing the various Indian councils of the Iroquois, Wyandots, Potawatomies and others.

The Hurons, Ottawas and Chippewas, Winnebagos, Foxes, Sacs, Menominees of Michigan, Wisconsin and Canada would hear him, as would the Sioux, Mandans and Cheyennes west of the Mississippi. In the south the Natchez and Choctaws of Mississippi, traditional enemies, sat down together in council with him, as did the Creeks, Seminoles, Chickasaws, Alabamas, the Biloxis and his old friends, the Cherokees.

He urged the Indians to prohibit consumption of any alcoholic beverage and the smoking of marijuana, to study closely the white man's ways and to break all alliances with them, and to take no part in the white man's fight with other whites.

He encouraged the Indians to swallow their pride and under no pretext take up arms against the whites until the time was ready. Tecumseh told them he would give the sign when all the Indians would sweep across the land and destroy all whites unless they agreed to go back east across the mountains.

When Tecumseh spoke of the sign he never failed to awe his audience. When the tribal unification was completed, he would stamp his foot and the earth would tremble and roar. He promised that great trees would fall, streams would change their courses and run backwards, and lakes would be swallowed up into the earth and new lakes would appear elsewhere. The sign would shake men everywhere to their very bones like nothing they had ever known before.

When the sign came they were told to drop their hunting bows, their hoes, leaving their fields and camps and assemble across the lake from the fort of Detroit. On that day, tribes would cease to exist. They would all be Indians, one people until forever, for the good of all!

A year later, William Henry Harrison became aware of Tecumseh's activities and accused Delawares of following a "dark, thorny" path led by the "pretended prophet" and asked them to demand to see a sign of his powers.

The frightened Prophet turned to Tecumseh and asked what to do when 40 Delawares came to him. Tecumseh pointed out that he could foretell what would happen just as their brother and father had been able to do. The fact that Tecumseh was the true prophet was known only to himself and his brother. He allowed everyone else to think that his younger brother could foretell the future.

Tecumseh instructed his brother to tell the Delawares that 50 days from that day the sky would turn black at high noon, the night creatures would stir and the stars would shine. The Shawnee Prophet did as he was told and, of course, was credited with predicting the eclipse. He forgot his brother was the true prophet, unfortunately, and enjoyed his newfound fame. Tecumseh's story will continue in next Sunday's column.

Chief Tecumseh

This is an original pen-and-ink drawing of the Indian chief as visualized by an unknown artist of the 19th Century. The piece was used in the design of the Vincennes University Seal, according to the Vigo County Historical Society, owner of the work which is on display at the VCHS Museum, 1411 S. Sixth St.

Staff Photo/Rick Cochran

The tragedy of Tecumseh rivals 'Hamlet'

Historically Speaking

Community Affairs File
Is DEC 2 1979

By Dorothy Clark

This continues the story of Tecumseh, chief proponent of early efforts toward Indian unification, which began in the Nov. 25 issue of the Sunday Tribune-Star.

William Henry Harrison had pulled political strings to have himself appointed governor of Indiana, and arrived at his new post in early 1801. He immediately began new land acquisition by negotiations with the Indians.

Another million acres were added to lands available for white settlement in 1802-1803. Other treaties followed, and Harrison attributed the resulting Indian resentment to British influence.

Harrison had little sympathy for the Indians and was convinced that the only satisfactory way to deal with them was to destroy them. This was an early version of the "only good Indian is a dead Indian" theory that we heard many years later.

He had visions of himself as a great conqueror of Indian lands and mapped out grandiose campaigns. He felt that all he needed was an opportunity to exhibit his abilities as a strategist. He was not yet aware of Tecumseh, but Tecumseh was very well aware of Harrison as he preached his message of unification to all the Indian tribes in his travels.

Tecumseh uses library

About this time Tecumseh became friends with a white family named Galloway. He enjoyed using the library of James Galloway and discussing politics, religion and ethics. Shakespeare's "Hamlet" became his favorite tale.

Tecumseh could speak English quite well and could read and write the white man's language, but was not fluent enough to read the more difficult books in the Galloway library. James Galloway's fourteen-year-old daughter, Rebecca, offered to help him. She spent many hours teaching the 38-year-old Shawnee chief and fell in love with him.

In the spring of 1808, when she turned seventeen, Tecumseh asked for Rebecca's hand in marriage. After thinking over the proposal for a month, she agreed to marry him if he would adopt her people's way of life and dress. For a month he thought over her request, then returned and told her he would lose the respect and leadership of his people if he did as she wished. Rebecca wept when Tecumseh took leave of her for the last time.

That same year Tecumseh had his first interview with Governor Harrison. He promised peace if the United States did not make further treaties involving land sessions. If such cessions were made, he added, he would form an alliance with the English and make war on the Americans. Harrison dismissed Tecumseh's request as preposterous.

By the next year, when the two men met again, events made peace impossible. Illinois Territory was created, leaving Indiana with its present boundaries. The Secretary of War gave Harrison permission to buy more Indian land, and the purchase of 2,500,000 acres in the fall of 1809 increased the Indian's hostility to the States.

Tecumseh insisted that the Indians held the land in common, and that no one tribe owned this or that territory. Harrison strongly disagreed and pointed out that if the Great Spirit had intended to make one nation of the Indians, he would not have put different languages into their heads and would have taught them all to speak alike.

Peace impossible

Tecumseh replied bitterly that no one tribe had the right to give away or sell what belonged to all, and that peace was impossible unless the United States agreed to cease purchasing lands from the Indians and restored the lands recently bought.

Pointing to the moon that had risen on the council, Gov. Harrison said that the moon would sooner fall to earth than the United States would give up the lands. "Then," said Tecumseh, "I suppose that you and I will have to fight it out."

Another unsuccessful council between the leaders was held in August, 1810. In his journal, Capt. George R. Floyd, commanding officer of Fort Knox, described the meeting. He wrote: "..... they were headed by the brother of the Prophet, Tecumseh, who perhaps is one of the finest looking men I ever saw — about six feet high, straight, with large, fine features, and altogether a daring, bold looking fellow."

In the talks, Tecumseh spoke of "all the warriors meeting together in two or three moons from this."

As for confidence in yet another treaty with the whites, Tecumseh asked: "How can we have confidence in the white people? When Jesus Christ came on earth, you killed him and nailed him to a cross....." The exchange became heated, and the council ended. Another council in July, 1811, ended the same way.

The autumn of 1811 found Tecumseh addressing tribal councils in the south, while William Henry Harrison was planning his attack on Tecumseh's village at Tippecanoe in his absence.

Harrison gathered 1,000 men, mostly volunteers, and following a well-planned campaign, prepared to annihilate his unsuspecting enemies — an act he forgot to report to the president.

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Fort Harrison built

He left Vincennes on Sept. 26, 1811, and moved directly up the Wabash river, pausing long enough to build Fort Harrison on the present site of the Elk's Club at Terre Haute. On the night of Nov. 6, he encamped on Tippecanoe Creek.

Before he left, Tecumseh had warned his followers, and especially his brother the Prophet, to avoid battle with the whites at all costs. His Indian confederacy now actually existed, and the time for a major war was almost at hand.

That night the Prophet sent three men to Harrison and it was settled that the terms of peace were to be arranged the next day. However, the Prophet convinced his warriors that he had rendered the bullets of the white men to be harmless and they would be victorious in the next morning's attack.

The Prophet perched himself on a nearby hill and chanted a war song the next morning while the Indians treacherously attacked in a fierce and bloody battle.

Battle of Tippecanoe

When messengers raced to the Prophet to report the bullets as lethal and that Indians were dying, the Prophet stopped singing and fled. The Indians became demoralized and retreated. The white casualities were 61 killed and 127 wounded; the Indian losses were unknown. News of the overwhelming defeat of the Indians was immediately dispatched by Harrison's messengers to the East.

In later years, there was much controversy as to whether or not Harrison had actually won. He had avoided rout and repulsed the Indians, but he had also found it necessary to retreat almost immediately. But the fact that the Indians had fought and had not won an overwhelming victory all but ruined Tecumseh and dashed the Indian confederacy on the very eve of its birth.

Four days after the battle, Tecumseh arrived back at Tippecanoe. Shaking his brother, fallen and disgraced, by the hair until his nose began to bleed, he told him that death was too good and too easy for him. In a day he had destroyed what it had taken Tecumseh a decade to build. The Prophet was drummed out of camp. He was no longer an Indian, he no longer existed.

Earthquake hits

As Tecumseh had predicted, the earth did shake. On Dec. 16, 1811, a deep, terrifying rumble was felt in the south of Canada. Trees fell and huge trees toppled. Lake Michigan and Lake Erie trembled and great waves broke on the shores, although the day was windless.

In the west the earth shuddered so fiercely that great herds of bison staggered to their feet and stampeded, and in the south whole forests fell. In Missouri the town of New Madrid was destroyed, the Mississippi river turned and flowed backwards. The earthquake lasted for two days and filled the atmosphere with choking dust.

A second struck on Jan. 23, and a third hit four days later. The fourth and worst quake came on Feb. 13, and lasted for an hour. It did more damage than the other three combined. Many of those that had deserted Tecumseh's cause reconsidered for this was very stong strong medicine — but it was too late.

The defeat at Tippecanoe had taken the ardor for war out of many of his followers, but the faithful went into the British service with Tecumseh when the War of 1812 broke out. Tecumseh was commissioned as a major general, but was doomed to disaster under the leadership of the incompetent General Henry Proctor. At the fateful Battle of the Thames, Proctor retreated with his red coats leaving the Indians to bear the brunt of the battle and Tecumseh was killed.

There on the banks of a quiet Canadian stream, 35 miles from Detroit, the great Tecumseh, statesman, diplomat, a man devoted to the cause of his people and yet a humble and modest intellectual, found an unmarked grave. The Indians lost their greatest leader, and the whites won the Northwest Territory.

In the late 1770s

George Rogers Clark made things happen in the West

Historically Speaking

T MAR 2 8 1981

By Dorothy Clark

There are three kinds of people-those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who have no idea what has happened.

There is little doubt that George Rogers Clark made things happen in the West between 1778 and 1780 when he and his small group of Virginians set out to occupy the French settlements of Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes, and eventually to attack Detroit.

The Expedition was supposed to quiet Indian America, to control sources of Indian trade goods, especially arms and gunpowder, and therefore, cut down Indian forays into Kentucky.

It was necessary to win over the French merchants in the Illinios country (of which Vincennes was then a part) and treat with the Indian tribes north and west of the Ohio before the Americans could muster a force to seize Detroit. In retrospect we know that Detroit never fell and the issue of winning French and Indian support or at least neutrality became all-important.

White settlers continued to push into Kentucky and this threatened not only the Indian's prime hunting preserve but the British trade territory. British Lt. Gov. Hamilton of Detroit made plans to send over a thousand warriors against the Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Virginia frontiers in 1777.

Clark began planning for the Indian visitors early that spring. As a 25-year-old militia major he dispatched scouts and spies into the Illinois country and urged Virginia to either occupy Kaskaskia or in less than a year send an army against the Indians on the Wabash.

Clark envisioned the capture of the Illinois country "would distress the garrison at Detroit for provisions" and fling the "command of two great river systems in American lands into turmiol." Clark told Gov. Patrick Henry that the Virginians coulb obtain goods from the Spaniards and carry on a trade with the Indians.

Clark's journey down the Ohio River and his overland trek to the Illinois towns is familiar to everyone. It was prophetic that on the night of July 4, 1778, his small force of 175 men appeared before Kaskaskia and took the town and fort without a stuggle. Clark was careful to cultivate the friendship of the French. He knew that their support was necessary for the occupation of the other villages and for control of the Indians.

As Clarence W. Alvord wrote, securing Kaskaskia and the other villages was an occupation, not a conquest. Clark soon dispatched Dr. Jean Baptiste Laffont and Father Pierre Gibault to win over the settlers of Vincennes. It was no problem. The British post at Vincennes, Fort Sackville, was without either a British military officer or troops. Laffont and Gibault soon returned and said that Vincennes was America's for the taking.

Clark dispatched Lieutenant Leonard Helm to the Wabash town in August, 1778, along with about 20 Americans and some Frenchmen. Helm was also named Indian agent in the Department of the Wabash. Thus, by mid-August, 1778, Clark had claimed the West for Virginia and the United States. Occupying these settlements was different from maintaining them, and this is where the Indian question was of paramount importance.

Clark's force was reduced to about 100 effectives by expiration of term of service. If the tribes found this out and found also that there was no army of Big Knives - as the Virginians were called - at the Falls of the Ohio, Clark most likely would have been attacked.

Either by messengers or in person, through an Indian interpreter, Clark very skillfully told the Indians the history of English colonization, the colonies' development, and the American Revolution up to that time. His treatment of tribal America was a primitive type of psychological warfare. His history lesson was filled with metaphors that Indians understood. The Virginian's account of the American Revolution was a little slanted, to say the least, but the impact was great.

At the close of 1778 the Indian situation in the West was in a state of equilibrium. Although many Indians tried to remain neutral, the Indians of the Mississippi and Illinois country were more under the influence of Clark, while the Wabash tribes had swung back toward the British because of Hamilton's occupation of Fort Sackville.

There was no rest for the people of Vincennes. In just over two months the American flag would fly again over the settlement. Clark's heroic march across Illinois in the dead of winter and the retaking of Fort Sackville is an epic of the American frontier. This historical event took place Feb. 25, 1779.

The British in 1780 filed to regain the Illinois country from Virginia. British commanders found that Clark's high reputation as an Indian fighter was almost universal in tribal America. Neither the Americans nor the British could truly claim control over the Indian tribes of the West, however. This does not detract in any way from the forceful, imaginative efforts of George Rogers Clark.

The Virginian had forced the British standard down at key points and British efforts to regain them had failed. For the conclusion of this story one must turn to the diplomats at Paris, to a world of finery and fashion far different from the wilderness world of the Illinois country. As events occurred in the 1780s, both Clark and tribal America would engage again, but never with the melodrama and heroics of the previous decade. As the Indians would say, not until they met Mad Anthony Wayne in 1794, would another Big Knife appear.

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Historically Speaking

Valley
T s APR 1 1 1982

Bowers was leader

REFERENCE
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By DOROTHY CLARK

One of the most prominent and influential Hoosiers in the 20th century was Claude Gernade Bowers (1878-1958), orator, editor, politician, historian and diplomat. During his career he worked on the Terre Haute Gazette and the Terre Haute Star from 1912 to 1916 and appeared in all the papers of the Hearst chain, coast to coast, from 1931 to 1933.

Born at Westfield, Hamilton County, Ind., Claude was the son of Christian Bowers, who ran the general store there and later owned stores in Jolietville and Whitestown. His mother, Juliet Tipton Bowers, was left a widow when Claude was very young. His father died following a fall about the same time his grandfather was gored by a bull on his farm, and there was no one in the Bowers family to support them.

Mrs. Bowers became a milliner in Lebanon, and then moved to Indianapolis in 1891 and established a dressmaking business. They were poor, living in a tiny cottage, and their life was vastly different than in previous years.

Here Bowers attended school 1894-1898, graduating from High School No. 1, which was soon after renamed Shortridge High School. He did not attend college. Inspired by superior teachers, his interest increased in public speaking and politics. His diaries begun in 1895 tell of his careful study of orators and their speeches when he was only 16. In spite of misspelled words and unpolished sentences, his diaries show the promise of the best-sellers he would write in the 1920s.

By 1900, Bowers was on the staff of the Indianapolis Sentinel, the leading Democrat daily, which he had delivered two years previously to subscribers' doorsteps. From this excellent start, he went on to work to at the Terre Haute papers previously mentioned, the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, and his editorials in the New York Evening World attracted national attention from 1923 to 1931.

In the spring of 1900, he enthralled his fellow diners at a Democrat "love feast" in Lebanon. At that event future Gov. Ralston jestingly proposed him for Congress, though the spellbinder known as "the Gatling-Gun Orator of the Wabash" was four years below the constitutional requirement. The audience responded with cheers.

Claude Bowers

In 1904, at Terre Haute, he described the woes and foes of Ireland to the Ancient Order of Hibernians so eloquently that tears rolled down the cheeks of John E. Lamb, the Terre Haute lawyer and leader who became his first political mentor.

In campaign year after year, Bowers stumped Indiana from county to county until his oratorical reputation became known nationwide. He was chosen temporary chairman and keynote speaker of the Democratic National Convention at Houston, Texas, when Alfred E. Smith was nominated for the presidency in 1928.

The political career of Claude G. Bowers was peculiar in failure and by being in the right place at the wrong time. As Democrat nominee for Congress in the old Fifth (Terre Haute) District in 1904, he was defeated by the incumbent Republican E.S. Holliday. In 1906 he lost again to the same opponent. In 1922, when prospects were bright for the victory of a Democrat in the race for the U.S. Senate, Bowers' candidacy died aborning as the nomination in May went to his old friend, Ralston, who beat Beveridge in November.

In 1904, Bowers was only 25 years old and a comparative newcomer to the Fifth District when his party unanimously selected him to run. In 1906, Bowers reduced the normal Republican majority to the smallest figure in years and contributed to the election of Democrats to local offices. He served on the Terre Haute Board of Public Works during a four-year period; was a delegate to the 1908 Democratic National Convention in Denver when he was 29; and was already being sought as a speaker beyond the borders of Indiana.

Bowers served as Sen. Kern's secretary in Washington from 1911 to 1917. In 1918 he declined the nomination for secretary of state. In 1920 he shared the honor of keynoting the state convention with Vice President Thomas R. Marshall.

In 1926, Bowers was an intimate advisor of New York Judge Robert F. Warner and a major factor in his election to the Senate. From 1928 to 1932 he was one of the three or four speakers most in demand throughout the country at Democrat gatherings. He was the trusted confidant of William Jennings Bryan, James M. Cox, William G. McAdoo, John W. Davis, Thomas J. Walsh, Cordell Hull, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.

At the age of 54, Bowers embarked on a fresh phase of his career — the diplomatic service. Named as Ambassador to Spain in 1933, he represented the United States in Madrid during the last three peacetime years of the Second Spanish Republic. Following the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War, he moved across the border into France and continued his work until 1939 when the Republic lost the war and was supplanted by the Franco regime. This was the most controversial part of Bowers' life. He saw the fighting in Spain as rehearsal for World War Two.

Less controversial was Bowers' 14 years as Ambassador to Chile, where he went in 1939 after turning down missions to Poland and Canada. It is an open question whether he was more thoroughly hated by the Nazis or the Reds.

Together with his wife, the former Sybil McCaslin, whom he had married in 1911, and their daughter Patricia, the U.S. envoy was eminently successful in winning the rapport and regard of Chileans. He and his family left Chile in 1953.

Not content to be "retired," author-diplomat Bowers continued to be active — writing, reading, conferring, doing research, serving causes, renewing old friendships, developing new ones and lecturing in the New York area and elsewhere. He and his family lived in a New York City apartment about a two-minute walk from Central Park.

More than once he came back to Indiana, visiting old friends in Terre Haute, addressing groups and receiving an honorary degree from Indiana University. When he died of leukemia in 1958, his body was returned to Indiana to be buried in Highland Lawn Cemetery in Terre Haute beside his devoted mother who toiled so selflessly in the 1890s to make a high school education possible for her son.

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BETWEEN THE LINES

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY...

By Josie

WE DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A GENTLEMAN: Nick Nolte, who has swung low and dirty in the past, is being extremely gracious in regard to his "Cannery Row" co-star Debra Winger. When Winger came on the set, following the hastily dismissed Raquel Welch, she had a lot of catching up to do, and Nolte gallantly assisted. When Winger reportedly tried to crack Nolte up during his closeups, he took it all in stride. "It was merely an extension of the sparring between the two characters," said Mr. Nolte.

Q. *Is John Kennedy Jr. planning on becoming an actor? — K. Waterston, Covington, Ga.*

A. A few Hollywood studios did put out feelers after seeing some pretty hunky pictures of him. But JFK Jr. is still a Brown University student, studying acting and appearing in school plays. If a recent review from the school paper is any indication, the kid might have a future. "It is not easy to do a stereotypical part like that of The Macho Boyfriend (in 'The Boom Boom Room') and to play it convincingly without succumbing to the characteristic Pacino-type movements and speech patterns so many actors feel obliged to take on. He does," wrote the paper.

SOON TO BE A MAJOR SELF-PROMOTION: Abbie Hoffman, that lovable former renegade and anti-war jokester, recently came to the defense of his friends Carly Simon and Robert DeNiro, who were reported to have left a benefit together. "Carly is still dating 'Dynasty' star Al Corley," said Hoffman, "and as for DeNiro, I was the one who went home with him. We've been lovers for the last 16 years, you know." What a kidder; but he goes on. "I've got much better legs than Carly. I should after seven years of being on the run."

Q. *I always loved Michael O'Donoghue's bits on "Saturday Night Live," but he seems to have disappeared from the credits. What happened? — Dina C., Henderson, Nev.*

A. In NBC's official glossed-over version, "There is a history of creative differences on the show." Specifically, O'Donoghue, who was hired back as supervising producer last season by the show's chief producer, Dick Ebersol, had very different views about where the show should go. O'Donoghue opted for intense, sometimes frightening punk bands like Fear, which Ebersol thought a mite too dangerous — he veered more in the direction of safe but aging bands like the Allman Brothers. As for material, the widely publicized "Last Days of Fred Silverman," featuring John Belushi as a Hitler-like studio mogul, was a sketch the NBC brass couldn't handle and some say it alone was responsible for O'Donoghue's exit. But O'Donoghue doesn't seem too sorry about the end — he was paid off handsomely for his NBC contract and he does have other projects in the works: a horror film called "The Dreammaster" (which he says is so scary that the typist working on the screenplay had a heart attack and died) and a women's prison film called "Kittens in a Can," in which inmates are subjected to numerous horrors — such as being forced to watch Women's Professional Golf coverage on a 24-hour basis.

GEE, STARS CAN ACT LIKE STAR-STRUCK KIDS, TOO: James Mason, in New York recently for a week of parties, was at the opening (and closing) night party for the play "Special Occasions" and was deep in conversation when he saw a famous lady entering the room. "That's Ethel Merman!" he cried, and quickly crossed the room to greet her. "Hello Miss Merman," he said, extending his hand. "May I introduce myself? I'm James Mason." Needless to say, the Great Voice was thrilled.

Anything you'd like to know about prominent personalities? Write: "Between the Lines," Terre Haute Tribune-Star, 721 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, Ind., 47808. We regret we cannot answer any letters individually.

Clark, Dorothy I
Artists (T-U)
Community Affairs File
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Historically speaking

Valley sculptress created beauty

T s DEC 5 1982

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

On Dec. 11th, the State of Indiana will celebrate its 166th birthday. When Indiana was 100 years old in 1916, the Indiana Historical Commission chose Janet Scudder to design a medal to commemorate the occasion. There were only 918 numbered proofs of this medal struck, and each was mounted in a small volume of only 32 pages. The numbered medals were all signed by Governor Samuel M. Ralston.

Done in delicate low relief, this Indiana medal shows on the obverse side an allegorical representation of the baby state of 1816 being welcomed into the Union, while in the distance are seen the historic little state house at Corydon and the Constitution Elm.

On the other side is the state seal whose origin ia obscure. The first constitution provided for a state seal, and in the House Journal of 1816 the design is defined as: "a forest and a woodman felling a tree, a buffalo leaving the forest and fleeing through the plain to a distant forest, and the sun setting in the west, with the word 'indiana'."

It is not known who designed this seal, nor is there any record that it was ever officially adopted. The design has been generally understood as showing a rising sum with the buffalo fleeing to the west.

In modeling the seal for the medal, Miss Scudder followed the general design which was familiar for a century, but she refined its crudeness and made a seal that is a thing of beauty.

Very little is generally known or has been written about Janet Scudder's early life. More has been written about her famous works of sculpture than about her personal life. She was born in Terre Haute on Oct. 27, 1873, at 637 Cherry St. Her father was William Hollingshead Scudder, and her mother was Mary Sparks, who died when Janet was five years old.

Janet was christened Netta Deweze Frazee Scudder, but was called Nettie by her family and friends in Terre Haute. She changed her name when she went away to school. In her autobiography written in 1925, she told of her unhappy childhood, a stepmother, her father's tragic death, the fire that completely destroyed their home and belongings and the fatal accident which claimed the life of her favorite brother, Charlie who was only one year older.

Mention is made of an older brother, James, a traveling salesman; a sister May who died in 1881; a sister Martha who was a school teacher at the First District School, and the beloved housekeeper, Hannah Hussey, who mothered Janet and encouraged her through the difficult years of adolescence.

One of the fountains created by Janet Scudder, "Boy Playing With Fish," is in the garden of the Woman's Department Club.

Valley Photo by Bob Poynter

In the early city directories, Mr. Scudder was listed as a confectioner and baker, located first at 194 Main, Later at 628 Main, and finally at 22 N. Sixth St.

Miss Scudder attended Central Presbyterian Church, the old Normal School, and studied under Professor Ames of Rose Polytechnic Institute along with Caroline Peddle Ball who also attained success as an accomplished artist and sculptress.

At the age of 18 years, Janet Scudder went to Cincinnati to study three years under Rebiso at the Academy of Art. She returned home with the intention of teaching art. When this plan failed, she went to Chicago and found employemt with a manufacturing concern where she did set pieces in woodcarving, all the fashion at that time.

Many midwestern homes are graced with a beautifully carved mantel piece done by Scudder. Although this was monotonous work, the pay was fair. Then fate stepped in guised as a member of the labor union who decided the young woman should be fired since she was not a member of the union. She was unemployed at the age of 20.

She next became a member of Lorado Taft's staff for the Columbian Exposition of the World's Fair. She was assigned the statue for the Indiana Building and the figure of Justice for the Illinois Building. This work won her a medal and sufficient money to continue her studies in Paris, France.

There she studied with MacMonnies for several years and later went to Florence, Italy, where she resolved to make small garden fountains as popular in America as they were in Europe. She had just completed several commissions for statuary and urn pieces to be placed in Woodlawn Cemetery by local families. This morbid work influenced her to only do work that would make people happy. She began to model happy children at play for her fountains and garden statuary. This work made her famous all over the world.

The name of Janet Scudder became so closely linked with fountains that one suggested the other, and the laughing elfish children became her trademark.

Before her work gained recognition, her early years of struggle were described as "years and years and years in a brown holland apron, in dusty studios; no money *and poor light, no money and small* amounts of food — years of it, until she saw her work in the Luxembourg," the first sculpture by any American woman to be purchased by the French government for its National Gallery. At one period in this struggle she lived on milk and baked beans.

Janet Scudder returned to Terre Haute for a visit the year before her death which occurred June 9, 1940, in Rockport, Mass., at the home of her friend, Marion Cothren, writer of children's stories.

Examples of Scudder's work can be seen locally. A bronze fountain, "Boy Playing With Fish," was placed in the garden of the Woman's Department Club. The Swope Art Gallery owns two bronzes, "Frog Fountain," slightly smaller than the original in the Metropolitan Museum, and "Diana." They also have a small oil painting done in her later life.

A tiny replica of the "Frog Fountain" was privately owned, and the late Helen Condit treasured a Christmas card done by Scudder pen and ink while in her teens depicting a tiny girl holding her doll by one leg. Scudder's work is represented in at least 14 museums, and her fountains are to be found on many Long Island estates and gardens all over the world. For her valuable work done during World War I, she was made a chevalier of the Legion of Honour of France.

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Paul McCartney

THIS SHOULD MAKE YOU FEEL OLD DEPARTMENT... Paul McCartney, who only looks slightly more weathered than in his "Cute Beatle" days, obviously feels older than he looks. The now 40-year-old-father of four (if you count wife Linda's daughter, Heather) was fretting about parental responsibilities lately, specifically what he should do about his oldest daughter's punk appearance. "I hope it doesn't mean that she's also sniffing glue," he was reported to say. So he gave her a heavy lecture on drugs, advising her not to use marijuana which, of course, he was busted for in Japan a few years back.

BETWEEN THE LINES

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY...

By Josie

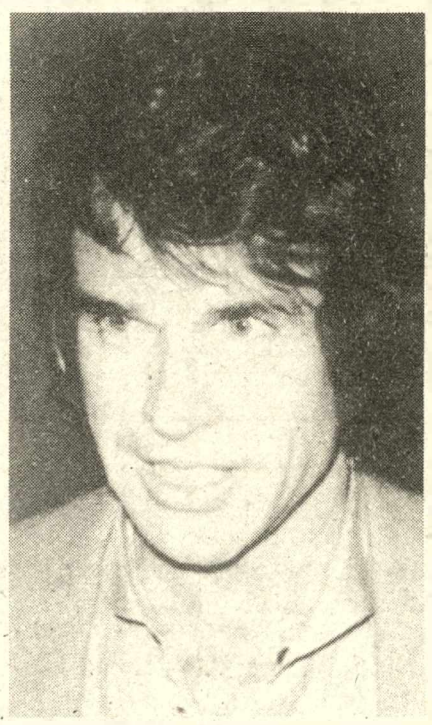
Q. ***Why don't we know more about Darren McGavin — a really dynamic and versatile actor? I have never seen an article about him or seen him on a talk show. Can you solve the mystery for us? Jane Fellin, Orangevale, Calif.***

A. We tracked him down on the set of his new series "Small and Frye," a comedy about two private investigators, and this is what he had to say: "Publicity? Who needs it. Listen, it's usually about someone being on dope or getting arrested. We (meaning he and wife of 13 years, Kathie Browne) like to stay out of the limelight and do what we want."

As you've noticed, McGavin hasn't been too visible in the media of late, especially TV. This was intentional. "We (he always includes Kathie) decided to stay away from TV the last two to three years until it stopped being so comic book," he says.

"But it hasn't! So when Disney called — I like Disney, I've worked with them for 14 or 15 years — and asked me to do this series, I thought why not — it's no sillier than anything else on TV." That may or may not be true. The concept of the series: McGavin and the son of his late partner, who has been zapped to the height of six inches through an electrical accident, explore "the high life and low life in New Jersey."

CBS has ordered episodes. If pre-existing series prove to be sillier, and low-rated, this show could come on in January as a mid-season replacement.



Jessica Savitch, Warren Beatty

FUN COUPLE OF THE WEEK: Though he has, of course, been linked to practically every woman over five and under 80, Warren Beatty has a new woman in his life, NBC news anchor Jessica Savitch. "They're both so busy that it's hard to get together," explains a friend of hers. "So he sends his private plane to bring her to wherever he is." Is this considered serious? "It seems to be," explains the friend. "Although it's not exclusive... I don't think Warren ever is. But he's drawn to Jessica, he really likes intelligent women. It's a change from what he's been used to recently. If you know what I mean..."

Q. ***I am very interested in actor Harry Hamlin. Where and when was he born and what has he done with his life? Willie Weeden, Middleton, Mass.***

A. The philosophical answer to your last question isn't in yet, but here goes the factual one: Hamlin was born on October 30, 1951 in Pasadena, California to a fairly wealthy family; he discovered that he wanted to become an actor while attending the Hill School in Pennsylvania. Hamlin developed his talent first at the University of California at Berkeley and then at Yale, where he graduated with a joint major in theater and psychology in 1974.

Since Yale specializes in training serious actors, Harry moved right after graduation to San Francisco and the prestigious American Conservatory Theater, making his stage debut in "Equus." He then received the Fulbright Scholarship to study Shakespeare in London when — and this is the part that even a movie audience wouldn't believe — he stopped in Los Angeles to say goodbye to his folks and got a call asking him to read lines with Ann Reinking in her audition for "Movie, Movie" (as a favor, he wasn't up for a part). He did, and wound up getting a part in the movie.

Kissing London goodbye, he then went on to star in NBC's mini-series "Studs Lonigan," the fantasy film "Clash of the Titans" (notable only for introducing him to co-star Ursula Andress, mother of his two-year-old son Dimitri and present companion, despite separation rumors), "Making Love," and a new film coming next spring, "Blue Skies Again," about a football player.

"He's the most intelligent actor around," an associate says. "So intelligent that he's almost intimidating to talk to. He just knows so much." Also knows no bounds, if a recent role is any indication: Hamlin just closed a run in the part that is considered the *creme de la creme* of an actor's craft: Hamlet.

Harry Hamlin

Community Affairs File

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Historically speaking

T s APR 1 7 1983
T e APR 1 7 1983

Dresser's memory lives in a song

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

April 22 marks the 124th birthday of Paul Dresser, composer of Indiana's state song, "On The Banks of the Wabash, Far Away." This song has done more to immortalize Indiana and acquaint people with the Wabash River than all the geographies and atlases ever printed.

Many years ago during an interview, the newspaper reporter asked Dresser if he could remember exactly where he was born as there seemed to be some question about his birthplace.

"Very easily, indeed," said Dresser. "It was in 1859 and in the city of Terre Haute. It was in the Meyer property on the east side of Second Street between Poplar and Swan streets. The house is brick and has since had a second story added. I lived there until I was 18 or 19 when my father sold out his wood (or wool?) business on South First Street and moved to Chicago."

For many years many people believed that Paul Dresser had been born April 23, 1857 on Walnut Street, between First and Second, because of a postcard picture of another little brick house. This alleged birthplace was widely circulated and is still in existence to further the inaccuracy. The printed error is lethal to accurate local history.

According to baptismal records at St. Joseph's Church, the correct date of Paul's birth was April 22, 1859, and the above interview gives the information concerning his birthplace in his own words.

When Paul was 15 years old, his parents, both ardent Catholics, decided to make a priest out of him. They sent him to St. Meinrad's Seminary in southern Indiana, but he ran away the next year.

It was while he was wandering the streets of Indianapolis looking for work that he saw Hamlin's Wizard Oil show and joined the show, becoming a medicine wagon minstrel at the age of 16.

Next Paul joined Thatcher, Primrose & West, a famous minstrel show of 1875. In Evansville, he played the "comic lead" at the Apollo Theatre.

Then he went on the road playing one of the "Johns" in the play "Two Johns." He played the plumber in a Hoyt's production as well as part a part in "The Danger Signal." Not all of these were first class productions. Some were popular melodrams, which played second class theaters in the larger cities. The Hoyt productions were first class and played in the best theatres.

During the summers in New York he established himself as a song writer. His first big success came when "The Letter That He Longed for Never Came" was a popular national success.

About this time he wrote a play called "The Green Goods Man" in which he toured the country two seasons as the star.

Songs followed in rapid succession, "The Convict and the Bird," "The Pardon Came Too Late," and "The Lone Grave" and others were immensely successful. In 1896 he left the stage to devote full time to song writing.

In 1898, when he wrote "On The Banks of the Wabash," every copy of the sheet muoic was dedicated to "Mary." Many people supposed Mary was his sweetheart, but truth is stranger than fiction. The fact of the matter is that Paul Dresser dedicated his song to a young lady he had never met.

It seems that Dr. Morehead of Terre Haute met Dresser in New York. During their conversation, he asked who was the Mary mentioned in the song. Dresser said he had no one particular person in mind when he wrote the song about the Wabash River. Dr. Morehead then suggested he could dedicate the song to pretty little Miss Mary South, daughter of Colonel E.E. South, general agent for the Big Four Railroad in Terre Haute.

Dresser knew Col. South, but had never met the child described as being "pretty as a picture and sings delightfully." Taking the advice of his friend, he dedicated his new song to the local school girl.

In a letter to Miss South he explained that "I wrote the words for 'On The Banks of the Wabash' in less than an hour!" The idea for the song was suggested by his brother, Theodore Dreiser (correct spelling of the family name) at Mudlavia, West Baden, Ind., where they were in the habit of going for recreation, enjoying the mineral waters and mud baths.

His brother reminded him of the great popularity of songs written about states and rivers. The public seemed to like nostalgic songs in those times like "My Old Kentucky Home," "Dixie" and "Old Black Joe."

Mary South told of meeting Paul Dresser in 1898 when he stopped in town to visit her father on his way back from Mudlavia. She remembered him as a very fat man who overflowed the piano stool when he sat down to play his new song for the family. He didn't have a singing voice, according to Miss South, but rather "talked his song off." She treasured many clippings, letters and cards received from her friend.

Before 1900 he had written over 100 songs. Every month he would send a proof copy of all the newly published songs to Mary. Everyone remembers "My Gal Sal" and "Only A Bird in a Gilded Cage."

Dresser's song about the Wabash was sung everywhere. The Wabash became a national river. According to Max Ehrmann, homecoming travelers from England, Germany and France reported hearing it.

The first copy of the song was framed and hung in Dresser's New York apartment. Its present whereabouts is unknown. The second copy was autographed and sent to Miss South, who had it framed between glass. She presented it to the Elks Club on North Seventh Street where it hung in the lobby for several years. When the Elks moved to the Fort Harrison location, the framed sheet music along with a large framed portrait of Paul were given to the newly opened museum in 1958.

Paul Dresser died Jan. 30, 1906, in New York at the home of his sister Emma who had nursed him through his long illness.

A fitting tribute is found in the words of Max Ehrmann — "To be loved in life is life's greatest gift. To be loved in death for some bit of beauty one has given the world, is to take from death some of its sting. It is a busy world, and often we think it a hard world. It has need of all the charm of word and sound, of color and carven stone that love can give it. This big-hearted, dreaming, pleasure-loving man gave it a melody that it long will cherish."

"Oh, the moonlight's fair tonight along the Wabash,
"From the fields there comes the breath of new mown hay.
"Thro' the sycamores the candle lights are gleaming
"On the Banks of the Wabash, far away."

Vigo County Public Library

BETWEEN THE LINES

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES YOU READ ABOUT CELEBRITIES

By Josie

Sarah Purcell

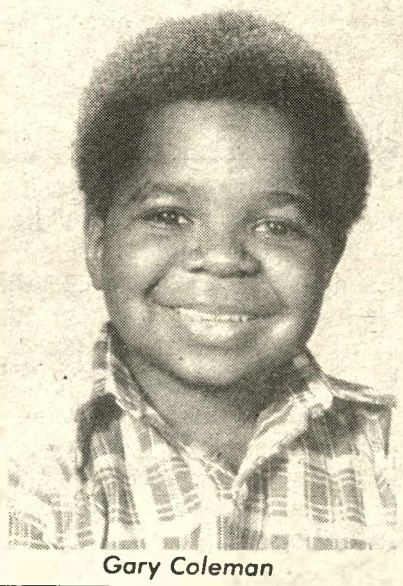
Q. ***I would like to know if Sarah Purcell has done any movies or starred in anything besides "Real People?" Also, what does she like to do in her spare time? Gary James, Denison, Tx.***

A. In whatever spare time the show allows, she skis, jogs, plays tennis and shops — especially shops. And travels — it's what she was doing for a stretch before "Real People." She met her ex-husband in Spain. "We were in Pamplona during the running of the bulls. He was standing on a street corner and he offered me a glass of champagne."

As for Sarah's other roles, she started as a weathergirl at KFMB in San Diego (the same job Raquel Welch once held), co-hosted KABC's "A.M. Los Angeles" for a few years, appeared in the film "Billy Jack Goes to Washington," and the TV movies "Terror Among Us" and "A Guide for the Married Woman."

And, there should be more in the future: "During Fred Silverman's last days as president of NBC we had lunch and he asked me what I wanted in my career," she says. "I said I wanted to act in my own movies which I also wanted to produce. He gave me an NBC contract to produce and star in two movies and a series pilot."

Q. ***We're very interested in Gary Coleman and his battle with kidney disease. Could you tell us how he's doing? Also, does he attend school or does he have a tutor? Mrs. Myra P. Spears's 7th Grade Class, Prescott Middle School, Baton Rouge, La.***



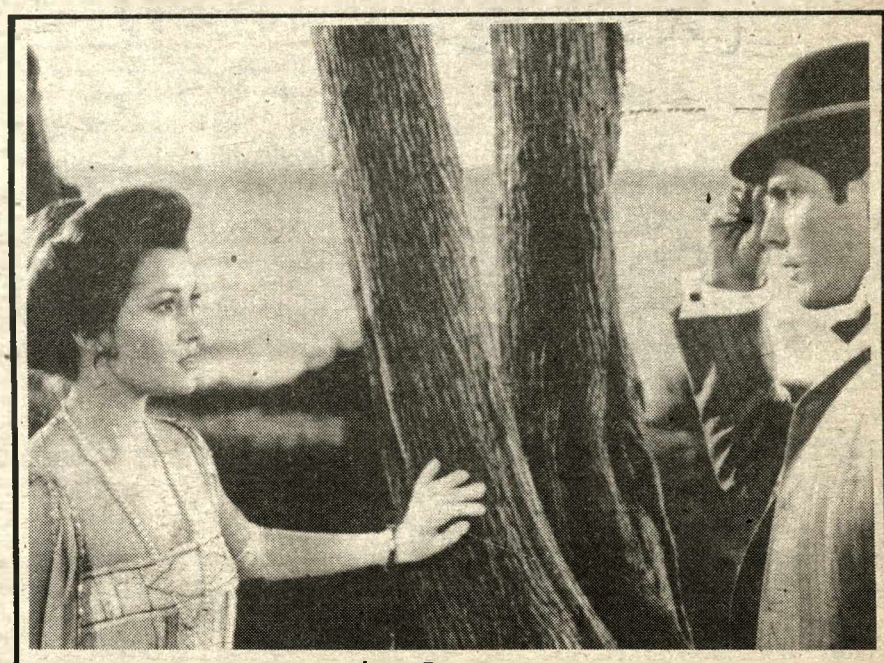
Gary Coleman

A. When we put your questions to Gary's manager, Vic Parillo, we got a pretty nasty response. "I don't know why people are so convinced that Gary is seriously ill," he said. "They're being misled. These tabloids have Gary dying all the time — he and I read these stories and we're stunned."

To set the record straight, then, Gary is feeling fine and is back at work on "Diff'rent Strokes." He does need a new kidney and will have the operation when a new one becomes available, but until then seems in no immediate danger.

"He's on a system of mobile dialysis," according to another of his reps, "so he can use it when he needs to, such as in his dressing room. But he's not hooked up to any machines. And he really does feel okay."

Regarding his education, he doesn't go to school, but California law requires him to have a tutor on the set and to receive three-hour intensive instruction every day — in the same subjects that you take.



Jane Seymour

Q. ***I really like Jane Seymour and I've seen almost all of her movies. I'd like to know something about her and what movies she's planning to star in the future? Anna Maria Lisenby, Wilmington, N.C.***

A. Jane (real name: Joyce Penelope Wilhemina Frankenberg) first started out to be a dancer — encouraged by her parents because she had terrible posture as a child. She was good at it, though, making it into the corps at London's famed Covent Garden at 15. By 17, however, she was finished, due to torn cartilage in her knee.

She switched to theater, acted in the classics in repertory companies (in the roles she was told she was too pretty to be taken seriously enough to play in films). In 1967 she got her first film role (she played a dancer and had one line) in Richard Attenborough's "Oh, What a Lovely War."

She married Attenborough's son Michael soon after. The marriage didn't last very long, neither did her second to businessman Geoffrey Planer.

On the career side, though, it's been remarkably smooth sailing: She got her breakthrough role, Solitaire, James Bond's seductive but virginal girl in "Live and Let Die," by walking into producer Harry Saltzman's office and taking off her hat (it was a fur hat and her waist-length hair was coiled inside to cascade dramatically when she took it off).

She's worked steadily here since 1976 in TV movies like "East of Eden," "Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders," "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and the recent "Phantom of the Opera."

Next projects are also TV films: NBC's "The Haunting Passion" and ABC's "Mata Hari," both to be filmed later this year. She's also doing a series of commercials for a new perfume "Le Jardin."

On the home front, she got married again in 1981 to her business manager, David Flynn (she videotaped the ceremony and even had the vows repeated for better effect), and gave birth to a daughter, Katharine, in January, 1982.

Anything you'd like to know about prominent personalities? Write Josie, SUNDAY WOMAN magazine, 235 E. 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. Sorry, we can't answer any letters individually.

Community Affairs File

T s APR 2 2 1984

Dresser born 125 years ago

Community Affairs File

Dresser Paul + Clark, Dorothy

April 22 marks the 125th birth anniversary of Paul Dresser, Terre Haute's earliest contribution to the world of popular music.

His actual birthplace became a controversial issue when a picture postcard was distributed, pasted in albums, and whenever it comes to light to raise the question. The postcard shows a little brick house on Walnut Street between First and Second Streets incorrectly captioned "Paul Dresser's Birthplace." The house was torn down to make way for the Kroger market building now used by WBAK-TV station.

The actual birthplace stood at 318 S. Second St. When Paul Dresser was interviewed by an Indianapolis reporter and questioned about his place of birth, he was quoted as saying: "It was in 1859 and in the city of Terre Haute. It was in the Meyer property on the east side of Second Street between Poplar and Swan streets. The house is brick and has since had a second story added."

During his brief career, Dresser wrote some 106 popular songs. March 14, 1913, the Indiana General Assembly officially declared his composition "On The Banks of The Wabash, Far Away" as the state song of Indiana, thus assuring his musical immortality.

This magical and nostalgic song, one of the classics of American balladry, set a nation's people to singing the glories of a river they'd never seen and a state they'd never given much thought.

The song first hit the music stands 87 years ago this spring in 1897. Song writers, dramatists and poets, hearing it whistled on the streets and sung from the stages, called it "a mother-lode ballad, Americanesque in genuine treatment."

Historically speaking

Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

The Indiana ballad has been interpreted four times under its own title as a motion picture, twice in silent and twice in talking films.

The song was becoming very popular in 1898 when Dresser came to town for a two-day visit. The first evening he was a dinner guest of Colonel and Mrs. E. E. South, along with Dr. and Mrs. Morehead. The Souths' small daughter, Mary, sang the now famous song for their distinguished guest.

It was Dr. Morehead who suggested that little Miss Mary be chosen as the one to whom the song was dedicated. The honor meant little to Mary, a young school girl at that time. She had never met Dresser but had heard her parents speak of him. Her name appears on each copy of the sheet music.

The next evening, the Souths were invited to sit with Dresser in his box at the Grand Opera House to enjoy the Elks Minstrel Show. Col. South was one of the early members of Elks Lodge No. 86 and active in all its projects including taking part in its first minstrel show in 1893.

Dresser always remembered his old friends and their families. Louise Kerlin was the daughter of William S. "Bill" Kerlin, for many years an engineer on the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad. As a young boy, Paul had been a "candy butcher" on Kerlin's train, and the two became friends.

In 1899 Louise (now Mrs. Jack Norworth) had been on the stage for two years. While in Chicago to learn new songs, the piano player introduced her to Dresser, then considered the nation's top song writer. During the conversation he learned she was the daughter of his old friend who had been killed in 1893.

He asked Louise to sing the "Wabash" for him, and was so pleased with her voice he decided to help her make a name for herself. First he called the Chicago Tribune and announced that his kid sister, Louise Dresser, was in town and opening at the Masonic Roof Garden, then the finest vaudeville theater in Chicago. He explained that she had been calling herself Louise Kerlin, but was to be known in the future as Louise Dresser.

Next he called his good friend, John J. Murdock, owner and manager of the Masonic Roof Garden, and asked for an opening for his sister, which he received. With this fine send-off, Louise Dresser became a headline star singing Dresser's songs and commanding a salary of $1,750 a week before leaving vaudeville for the movies.

She introduced "My Gal Sal," one of her biggest song hits, in 1905 at Keith's Union Square Theater in New York. This sentimental ballad is alleged to have been inspired by Sarah "Sally" Fitzgerald, the small daughter of the family who lived across the street from the Dreiser-Dresser family.

Dresser would sometimes "borrow the use of" the Fitzgerald's piano, the old Chickering now housed at the Historical Museum of the Wabash Valley. Song writer Dresser might get an inspiration for a song from somebody, practice the melody on several pianos in many locations, and then actually sit down and write the finished music and lyrics in still another place on another piano. Scattered over the country in museums and private homes are antique pianos alleged to be the THE Paul Dresser piano on which his song hits were composed.

In spite of his many successes, Dresser constantly feared he was losing his touch. When he was on top, he was the brightest light of Tin Pan Alley, but Paul Dresser died Jan. 24, 1906, at the age of 47, broke, shabby, down and out, and being cared for by his sister, Emma. He is buried beside his mother in St. Boniface Cemetery, Chicago, Ill.

The man who had written so many songs that touched the hearts of people all over the world, died of a broken heart along with his physical ailments. His publishing house had failed, and he didn't have money to plug his latest song, "My Gal Sal."

This last-published song became a success after his death. It would have rebuilt his fortune, and the resulting praise would have acted like a magic tonic. He could have put on his tall silk hat and frock coat and told Broadway that he had another hit.

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Vigo County Public Library

Clark, Dorothy + Riley, James Whitcomb (SPEC Files)

shared Hoosier lore

T S OCT 7 1984 Community Affairs File

James Whitcomb Riley

Known as the children's poet, James Whitcomb Riley was one of Indiana's most beloved citizens. He was born Oct. 7, 1849, in Greenfield, and lived all his life in the Hoosier state. He carried knowledge of his native state into the schools and homes of the entire world.

Born in a little log cabin which had been weatherboarded over, Riley recalled the day his father bought his first oil lamp. Previously their home had been lighted by daylight through the small square panes and by candles at night.

"To us it gave forth marvellously lustrous light," he said. "Father came home with the lamp and chimney in one hand, and a bottle of coal oil in the other, and tinkered with the outfit all evening for the family's benefit."

"I was then reading the Arabian Nights, wholly enraptured with that magic story, and had come to the tale of the Wonderful Lamp and the cry of new lamps for old," Riley recalled. "Well, the smell of that coal oil became associated in my mind with Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp, and to this day I cannot smell coal oil without recalling the old delights of the story and

Historically speaking

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feeling myself lying prone on my stomach reading, reading and reading by the hour."

Jimmy "Bud" Riley was fond of books even before he could read or spell. "Long before I was old enough to read," he said, "I remember buying a book at an old auctioneer's shop in Greenfield. I cannot imagine what prophetic impulse took possession of me and made me forego the ginger cakes and the candy that usually took every cent of my youthful income. The slender little volume must have cost all of 25 cents! It was Francis Quarles' 'Divine Emblems,' a neat little affair about the size of a pocket Testament. I carried it around with me all day long, delighted with the very feel of it."

James Whitcomb Riley was not a handsome boy. He had whitish hair, very pale eyes and a great many freckles he was always hoping to lose. The story was told that one day he bought a bottle of freckle remover. On his way to school he stopped off in a deserted barn and doused his face with the magic liquid, expecting the freckles to rattle as they fell off onto the floor.

He was late for school, and the minute the other children saw him they began to laugh. The teacher took him out on the back porch and let him look in her mirror. His face was as yellow as an Easter egg!

He had neglected to read the label on the bottle which directed the user to rub off the preparation immediately with salt water and egg white. Well, the teacher helped him get the stuff off his face, and after two or three days all the freckles came off with the skin too, but he never had another freckle.

Encouraged by his teachers to read the best literature, he took to anything dramatic or theatrical. He disliked history, dates melted from his memory, nor was arithmetic his best subject.

When school days were over, what could he do? He could do everything except what was useful or what people would pay for. He could play the fiddle and guitar, he could sing and act, write verses and tell stories, but nobody would pay him for this.

It was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow who read Riley's poems and encouraged him by saying, "I think your poems show the true poetic faculty and insight." This inspired Riley to write more and more poems until he had compiled enough for his first book, "The Old Swimmin'-Hole and 'Leven More Poems," a little paper book which was a sell-out and made a small profit.

He tried more and more books which eventually sold, and just kept writing until he had nearly a hundred to his credit. Much of Riley's poetry has never been published.

He corresponded in verse with many of his friends, including Dr. James N. Matthews of Mason, Ill., also a poet.

Community Affairs File

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"In Days To Come — To James W. Riley"
by J. N. Matthews

"In days to come, when you and I
Wax faint and frail, and heart fires die
And tinkling rhymes no more obey
The wooing lips of yesterday,
How slowly will the hours go by!
When we have drained our song cups dry,
My comrade, shall we sit and sigh,
Childlike, o'er joys too sweet to stay
In days to come?"

Riley's answer to this poetic letter from his friend was:

"In days to come — whatever ache
of age shall rack our bones, or quake
Our slackened sinews — what 'er grip
rheumatic catch us in the hip,
we, each one for the other's sake,
will of our very wailing make
such quips of song as well may shake
the spasm'd corners from the lip —
In days to come.

Ho! Ho! how our old hearts shall rake
the past up! how our dry eyes slake
their sight upon the dewy drip
of juicy-ripe companionship,
and blink stars from the blind opaque —
In days to come."

Among the most famous of the Hoosier poet's published works are his two collections, "Rhymes of Childhood" first printed in 1890, and "An Old Sweetheart of Mine" in 1902. Most familiar are his poems, "Little Orphan Annie," "The Raggedy Man," "Out to Old Aunt Mary's," and my favorite, "The Bear Story."

James Whitcomb Riley spent some years as an actor, composing songs such as "There Little Girl Don't Cry," and writing plays as they were needed by the troupe. His contributions to magazines and newspapers first attracted public attention about 1875. They soon became so popular that he devoted himself exclusively to writing and public readings of his works. He died July 22, 1916, in Indianapolis.

Clark, Dorothy — Clergy (Wed)

Beecher among first ministers at church here

Community Affairs File

T s NOV 2 5 1984

Henry Ward Beecher was born June 24, 1813, in Litchfield, Conn., the seventh child of Lyman Beecher and Roxana Foote Beecher to reach maturity. The father was a nationally known revivalist, theologian and educator in New England and Cincinnati. The mother was descended from the prominent Foote family of New England.

Considered one of the less promising of the Beecher children, Henry graduated from Amherst College in 1834 before training to become a Presbyterian clergyman.

In 1837, he was invited to preach at the First Presbyterian Church in Lawrenceburgh. The large crowd in attendance came to see and hear a son of the controversial Lyman Beecher who had been charged with heresy. At this time there were 122 Presbyterian churches in Indiana.

In 1839, Beecher was called to the Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. Early in January 1842 he was called to Terre Haute to assist with a revival, so he left his family in Indianapolis and arrived here Jan. 14. He found the revival in progress with 28 converts to its credit.

The Rev. Merrick A. Jewett invited Beecher to help with a protracted meeting at his Congregational Church. The invitation was possible because of the close cooperation between the Congregational clergyman and the New School Presbyterians in the West.

Historically speaking

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By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Jewett's church had prospered since its beginning less than a decade earlier. The village of Terre Haute lacked a settled Protestant minister when young Jewett, a native of Baltimore, Md., stopped overnight in 1834 on his way farther West.

Some Terre Haute residents asked him to give a sermon, which he delivered at the Court House. Money was pledged for his salary if he would stay in Terre Haute. He accepted, and Dec. 30, 1834, organized the Congregational Church with 11 charter members. Within two years his congregation built a substantial brick church outside the city limits on the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry streets. It was an imposing edifice for that time and cost about $9,000. It was here that Jewett and Beecher led revival meetings in 1842.

This was the first revival in Indiana in which Henry Ward Beecher took a leading part. He was elated by his success in Terre Haute.

He would recall that he "used to get up early in the morning, and, immediately after breakfast, take a horse, and ride from house to house, and converse with people. I worked in that way till 10 o'clock. Between 10 and 11 I attended the daily prayer meeting. Then I rode with the pastor till dinner-time. After dinner I rested till evening, when I attended another meeting."

Beecher recalled "while I was in Terre Haute 10 people joined the church and another 17 were converted shortly after I returned to Indianapolis." More than 120 people joined Jewett's church during the year, and Beecher's work was recognized as contributing to the increase in membership.

In 1842 Lyman Beecher delivered the principal address at commencement exercises at Wabash College. From there he and his son, Henry, traveled to Rockville to preach a sermon before proceeding on to Terre Haute, arriving at noon Friday, July 22.

After spending a lazy afternoon reading newspapers, talking and sleeping, as the guests of Lucius H. Scott, Henry preached to a large congregation at Jewett's church that evening. Then his father, Lyman Beecher took over the pulpit at the Saturday night and Sunday morning services. The younger Beecher then preached the afternoon and evening services. They traveled back to Indianapolis early the next morning.

Scott had heard both men preach before, enjoyed their company and was proud to entertain them in his home.

Plagued by illnesses during their years in Indianapolis, the Beecher family returned to Cincinnati to make their home. Sept. 26, 1847, Henry Ward Beecher delivered his final sermon, auctioned off his belongings including his beloved garden plants and trees, and boarded the first train ever to puff its way in the city on Oct. 1 when it made its return trip to Madison, Ind., on the Madison & Indianapolis Railroad.

At Madison, he boarded a packet boat to Cincinnati. At his death 40 years later he was considered one of the most famous and influential Americans of the 19th century.

The first little Congregational Church in Terre Haute was struck by a tornado in 1853. It was several years before the new and enlarged church was completed at nearly double the cost of the first one.

Jewett resigned in 1859 due to ill health and was succeeded by Lyman Abbott in 1860 who served here five years. A member of a distinguished family, Abbott became the successor of Henry Ward Beecher, the leading divine of his order.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

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Street poet

Terre Haute visits

VClark, Dorothy

Indiana's Lockerbie

Community Affairs File

Ts FEB 2 1986

Riley got good reviews during

James Whitcomb Riley appeared in Terre Haute on Feb. 28, 1880, at the Opera House and presented poetical sketches, humorous readings and studies from real life. Reserved seats were not necessary, and admission was 25, 35 and 50 cents.

The young poet of Indiana had a good audience. At that time Terre Haute was rated as a "second class paw-paw town" with only 100 in the audience to hear him on his first appearance.

According to the local newspaper, "He is a young man of rare talent, and is fast establishing a reputation that bids fair to place him in the front rank of men of genius."

"As a poet, author and humorist," it was reported, "he has few equals and no superior. Where he has appeared once he is sure to be called back again."

This statement proved true, and Riley made his second appearance in Terre Haute on April 6, 1880. The Daily Express reported the event "most pleasing entertainment to a very fair audience in Dowling Hall ... his youthful appearance ... predicted a brilliant career."

Historically speaking

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By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Following the public appearance, Mrs. Aydelotte invited about 30 friends to the home of N. G. Buff on South Sixth Street to meet Riley and to enjoy a private reading of some of his latest work. Amelia Kussner, a pupil of the hostess, performed along with other students, altogether a cultural experience.

Riley wrote poems, prose pieces and a one-act play, Hoosiers are more familiar with his humorous pieces in dialect, his serious pieces in standard English and his poems about and for children.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, the poet Riley loved best, advised him to write about what was closest to his heart. His mentor, Capt. Leo O. Harris, gave the same advice. So Riley's poems tell of everyday people in beautiful Indiana, and particularly of the children.

"The Best of JWR," put together by Donald C. Manlove and published in 1982, gives the reader hours of enjoyment reacquainting himself with long-forgotten writings of the Indiana poet of Lockerbie Street.

Born in 1849 in Greenfield, Hancock County, Ind., Riley was the third of six children of Reuben Alexander Riley and Elizabeth Marine, descendants of English Quakers and French Huguenots in North Carolina. Reuben was born in Pennsylvania of Irish, German and English descent. Both families migrated to Randolph County, Ind., where they met and married in 1844. They moved to Greenfield where Reuben opened a law office and was the first mayor. He was much in demand as a speaker.

Riley inherited his father's speaking abilities along with the maternal grandfather's preaching

Vigo County Public Library

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Community Affairs File

talents and urge to write poetry. Riley left school at 16, and was apprenticed as a sign painter. In 1870 he again attended school, but his grades were so poor he quit to go to work again.

He sold Bibles door to door, worked as a sign painter, went off with a traveling medicine show, and began entertaining crowds along with his poster painting.

In 1873 he painted advertising on barns. Then in 1874 his father persuaded him to read law in his office. The next year he received his first check for a poem, went off again with a medicine show, and became editor of a tiny newspaper where he could publish his poetry to his heart's content. Soon other Indiana newspapers were using his poems. He had found a regular paying job at last.

As early as 1875, Riley was giving solo programs of his writings. From these small readings he learned what the audience enjoyed. By 1880 he was at his writing peak, and lecture bureaus signed him up to tour New England. By 1887 he appeared in New York. His most prolific years were the 1870s and 1880s.

His health was failing, he drank too much and the constant traveling was over by 1890. He published books from that time until 1902.

During his Lockerbie Street years he was rich and famous, and his work was enormously popular. Until his death in 1916, at the age of 66 years following a stroke in 1911, he received honorary college degrees, was visited by friends and distinguished writers and poets from all over the world.

Everyone has their favorite writing of James Whitcomb Riley. "The Bear Story" has always been this writer's favorite since an early age. What's yours?

man's home

Dresser effort preserves working

Ts AUG 3 1 1986

√Clark, Dorothy ✓ Dresser, Paul (see)

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Near the banks of the Wabash: Civic effort saved Dresser's boyhood home.

Labor Day, first celebrated in 1882 in New York, was established to honor the working men and women of the United States. It seems appropriate to remind readers of the community project that saved the old dilapidated brick house in Terre Haute whose only claim to fame was that it was the birthplace of Paul Dresser, composer of Indiana's state song, "On The Banks of the Wabash, Far Away."

The architectural significance of the house is slight, but it is typical of the Indiana working man's home before the Civil War. Most of the historical homes that have been restored are the homes of the wealthy. Isn't it just as important to preserve a sample of the kind of home in which 90 percent of the Hoosier population lived in the 1850s?

Endeavoring to save a historical site is always a challenge to a community. Too often a building of historical significance is torn down to make way for a parking lot or still another gas station or pizza parlor. Now, don't get me wrong. I'm not opposed to progress or even parking lots, but service stations get boarded up to serve as tax breaks with great regularity.

When the urban renewal program in the southwest project area of Terre Haute was announced, the Vigo Historical Society realized there was one building in this area which had some historical significance, the birthplace of Paul Dresser at 318 S. Second St.

First of all, the society needed to make absolutely sure that the house was indeed Paul's birthplace. There were still some "diehards" in the city who insisted that his birthplace was torn down at 115 Walnut Street to make way for a Kroger supermarket, which has now become WBAK-TV. Before it was torn down it was definitely established it was only a color photo on a postcard which had been mislabeled and caused the misunderstanding.

For years former historian A. R. Markle had tried to convince these same diehards that the correct location of the house where Dresser was born was at 318 S. Second. Local attorney John G. Biel, an officer of the historical society, along with officials of the Redevelopment Commission, researched the abstract of the property and found the Dresser-Dreiser family owned the property before Paul's birth and for some time after that event in 1859.

To further confirm their findings, an inscribed photo was given to the society by Paul's niece, Dr. Vera Dreiser of New York City. She verified his handwriting on the photo.

Except for the fact that this early photo shows the two-story house with shutters at the windows and on each side of the front door and much gingerbread carving across the front porch, the house appears much the same today.

The big changes over the years were quite evident inside the house. When the tenants changed from coal oil lamps to electricity, wires were draped across ceilings and walls because the foot-thick brick walls defied concealment.

When this writer first inspected the property, she found a wet washing hung over these electric wires to dry, a fire hazard to say

the least.

Around the turn of the century, a second front had been cut through where a window had formerly been located. This change was corrected in the restoration. The original outside stairway leading to the second floor bedrooms also was restored. The upstairs door was found concealed under further remodeling.

The wainscot and poplar floor boards were buried under layers of paint and varnish. Used as a multiple rental unit, the old house had been occupied by innumerable tenants over the years and had undergone many changes.

Architects and contractors assured the society that basically the more-than-century-old house was structurally sound and in surprisingly good condition for its age and lack of regular upkeep. The moving engineer guaranteed a proposal to move the house to its new site in Fairbanks Park at the northwest corner of First and Farrington streets and set it on a new concrete foundation in as good condition as it was before moving.

A 50-year lease was secured from the city park board for the proposed site measuring 200 feet by 200 feet. Slowly the moving fund of $5,000 was accumulated from history-minded and civic-minded people, from "penny marches" of the school children, and from nostalgic music lovers all over the country.

The house was moved successfully, even halting a train while it was being trundled across the tracks. Power and telephone lines had to be lifted or cut to allow passage down the streets. Then the fund drive for restoration expense was underway, and again time was wasted while money dribbled in. Eventually, the work was completed inside and out, and the house was dedicated and opened to the public.

It became a tourist attraction and the target for school bus loads of children who learned how their ancestors lived before the Civil War without central heating, electricity, gas and plumbing. The lean-to kitchen was restored to make the project complete. Items of furniture and accessories were donated, all dated before 1860, and visitors are now afforded a visual history lesson.

Paul's father, John Paul Dreiser (or Dresser), was employed by G. F. Ellis as a wool sorter at the Riverside Woolen Mill opened on the corner of First and Walnut in 1854 and operated until 1890. An expert sorter, Dreiser's hands were said to have been unusually soft and smooth due to the lanolin in the natural wool.

It was Ellis who loaned Dreiser the money to purhase the home where Paul was born. The abstract shows small monthly payments were made to Mr. Ellis. A good wool sorter was hard to find, so it was sensible to help keep his employee in Terre Haute with a roof over the heads of his rapidly growing family.

In May 1863, Ellis refitted with new machinery the woolen factory of Gray & Taylor located in Turman Township, west of Graysville, in Sullivan County. D. M. Jewett, E. D. Jewett and Paul Dreiser became partners in the Jewett Brothers Sullivan Woolen Mills. This firm dissolved in April 1869 when Dreiser withdrew from the business.

About June 1, 1870, Dreiser became the proprietor of the Sullivan Woolen Mills with the financial support of Chauncey Rose. Dreiser was not a business man, however, and a new owner took over on Feb. 1, 1971.

From Sullivan the family moved on to Evansville and began to break up as the older children married and/or went out on their own. Paul Dresser is buried with his parents in a Chicago cemetery.

Clark, Dorothy (F)

Before Tin Pan Alley

Ts APR 19 1987

Dresser enjoyed relatives, friends

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

On the 129th anniversary of the birthday of Paul Dresser, it's interesting to reflect on his early life in Terre Haute and elsewhere in Indiana.

As a teen-ager, Paul would visit his aunt, Mrs. Jesse Rector, and other family friends in Linton. He was a friend of Daniel Blackburn Cornelius, his younger sister, Jennie Cornelius (later Mrs. Brewer), and their father, the Rev. William H. Cornelius, who enjoyed composing music.

When the reed organ was first introduced, the Cornelius family purchased a Smith Organ while he was pastor of the Linton Methodist Church. The parsonage immediately became a gathering place for the music lovers, young and old, of the Linton community.

Little 5-year-old Jennie had learned to play their huge, old-fashioned piano, and soon learned to play the new reed organ. Paul Dresser was alleged to have become an accomplished organist and entertained his audience with original compositions.

The family remembered that he would compose beautiful little songs for Jennie to sing. She remembered one entitled "Springtime and a Blossoming Apple Tree" all her life and sang it shortly before her death at the age of 92.

In tribute to Jennie's expressive big brown eyes, Dresser composed a tune he called, "Brown Eyes Shine Happiness."

Mrs. Cornelius remembered Dresser as a "tall youth always moving in his gait with rhythmic swagger, with attractive black-brown hair worn rather long in the style of that day, and dark brown eyes."

She recalled that he was quiet and friendly, very popular with everyone, especially for his musical talents.

Dresser frequently visited at his relative's home, the Jesse Rector farm west of Linton near what became known as the Ellis community.

Often on long summer afternoons and evenings, he would visit his friend, Daniel B. Cornelius. He would sit for hours, alone, in the quiet parsonage parlor, playing softly one chord after another, while Daniel, who dreamed of becoming an architect, worked in the dooryard drawing builder's designs and constructing items from wood.

In time Daniel became a noted architect and builder of Linton. Dresser became the Toast of Tin Pan Alley for his popular music and stage plays.

William Butler, an old resident born and reared in the community east of Dugger in Greene County, remembered Paul as a boy when he visited the Rector family during the 1870s. He recalled going swimming in the ponds of that area with Paul when he was a teen-ager.

Butler recalled how Paul entertained with songs and recitations at the schools near his home.

Joe E. Turner of Linton, a veteran newspaper man who was born and reared in the same community as Billy Butler, told how he remembered the Dresser (or Dreiser) family. "The family lived in Sullivan, Ind., before going to Terre Haute," he said, "and the father was employed as superintendent at the old woolen mills there."

Although the Dreiser-Dresser family lived in many houses in Terre Haute, the brick house at 318 S. Second St., was proved beyond any question to be the birthplace of Paul Dresser, the first born of the large family. Thirteen children and a very low income put a strain on living quarters.

A photograph of the house, autographed by Paul himself, states it was the place where he was born. However, it was only a one-story dwelling at that time. His father built the upper floor as the family continued to grow. Paul called it his home until he was 18 when his father sold out his wood business on South First Street and moved the family (what was left of it) to Chicago.

Known as the Mayer property on the east side of Second Street between Poplar and Swan, the sale is on record to Dreiser's boss at the woolen mill, George F. Ellis. John Paul Dresier and his wife, who did sewing for local stores, paid for the house weekly until it was finally sold.

In Paul's correspondence, now housed in the Indiana University Library, can be found, "I wrote the words for 'On The Banks of the Wabash, Far Away' in less than an hour." Historians are sure that at some time his younger brother, Theodore Dreiser, might have suggested that Paul write a song about the river. Theodore always was interested in what would sell.

Paul toured the entire country and starred in his original play, "The Green Goods Man." His successful career as song publisher was but short because of his untimely death in 1906.

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JUL 26 1987 (Clark, Dorothy (J))

Deacon McGuire was baseball's iron man

James Thomas McGuire was born Nov. 18, 1863, in Youngstown, Ohio. He grew up in Cleveland, then, as a young man, moved to Albion, Mich., where he was apprenticed to an iron molder.

On Saturdays, McGuire played baseball. Because of his trade, he had developed an extremely strong torso, arms and hands.

He had a reputation as a good hitter while playing for the home team in Hastings, Mich., but he was becoming famous for his catching abilities behind the plate.

He was thought to be the only catcher within a 50-mile radius who could handle Charles (Lady) Baldwin, a southpaw with a blazing fastball and a so-called "snakeball" curve. Baldwin also would go on to play in the majors. He led the National League with 42 victories in 1886 while pitching for Detroit.

McGuire turned pro in 1883 and played for an independent team, the Terre Haute Awkwards.

The following season he wound up with Toledo of the then major league American Association. He shared the duties behind the plate with Moses Fleetwood Walker, the first black player in major league history.

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

McGuire caught for Toledo's ace pitcher, Tony Mullane, the only ambidextrous pitcher in the big league, and Hank O'Day who "threw the heaviest and hardest ball I every caught," McGuire said.

"It was like lead and came like a shell from a cannon. The reinforced full-fingered catcher's glove had just come into use the year before.

"One day on my way to that old Toledo park on Monroe Street," McGuire said, "I passed a butcher pounding round steak. It gave me an idea, and I went in and bought a lot of it. I put a piece of it in my glove at the start of every inning, and Hank's pitches beat that steak into a pulp."

McGuire and his "padded" mitt made stops in one minor league and four major league cities in the next six years. In 1891 he went to Washington, where he played one year in the American Association and tied 7½ in the National League.

His hitting was terrible when he first got to the majors. For three seasons he batted below .200, but after hitting .198 in 1886 with Philadelphia, he averaged .307 the next season.

The best year of McGuire's career was 1897 when he batted .343. His best all-around season was 1895. He batted .336 and had career highs of 179 hits, 30 doubles, 10 homers, 97 RBIs and 89 runs.

Most miraculous of all was the fact that he went without rest from catching every game. McGuire was never fined or ejected.

Paul Frisz, Terre Haute's baseball authority, related the fact that McGuire was a very religious man. In 1900 his teammates began calling him Deacon because he was so straight-arrow. He didn't drink or carouse as did many of the old-time ball players.

McGuire also was nicknamed Pinch for his timely hitting. He hit .341, going 14 for 41, as a pinch hitter, and he got better as he grew older. After his 40th birthday, he was 6 for 9 coming off the bench.

Turning manager in the last half of the 1898 season for Washington, he had little success (19-49). In all, he managed one full season and parts of five others. His career record was 208-289.

As catcher for the 1898 Washington Nationals, Deacon McGuire checked the runner on first and then wiggled his huge gnarled fingers, calling for a pitchout from Wild Bill Donovan. "It was one of the wildest pitches Bill ever made, and you know he made a lot of them," McGuire told Guy Smith who was writing his biography.

Instinctively McGuire thrust out his bare right hand to stop the ball. It caught the tip of his middle finger and stripped the flesh from the bone. The umpire, Bob Emlie, promptly fainted.

This was long before there was a disabled list, and it was no surprise to the fans that McGuire was back behind the plate within a week. "We were short of catchers," he said.

Probably his outstanding attribute was his resilience. He

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caught every inning of Washington's 133 games in 1895, and holds the major league record for longevity, having played 26 seasons.

He also played for 12 teams, as many as any other player in major league history. He managed three of those clubs.

His baseball savvy was admired widely, but not as much as his guts. During his long career he broke all of his fingers, some several times.

In 1899 McGuire was traded to the Brooklyn Dodgers and by hitting .318 helped them win the first of two straight championships. He was said to have no superiors as a coach of pitchers and for steady, uninterrupted work.

By 1902 he was back on the road, playing for Detroit and the New York Highlanders before accepting managing posts with Boston and Cleveland. In 1912 he became a scout for Detroit.

McGuire made the record book for his 26th season in the big leagues because Detroit Tiger star Ty Cobb roughed up a fan during a game in 1912 and was suspended indefinitely by American League president Ban Johnson. Cobb's teammates decided to strike because of this.

To avoid the $5,000 league fine for a forfeit, the Tiger manager combed the local sandlots, recruiting college students for the game with the Athletics.

To strengthen this strange mixture, he added McGuire and another Tiger scout. The paper Tigers lost 24-2. McGuire went 1 for 2, drew a walk, scored a run, had 3 putouts, 3 assists, (and 2 errors), and, therefore, made the record book.

His listing in the player register of The Baseball Encyclopedia of 1976 is over twice as lengthy as most of the other players.

From 1913 to 1924 McGuire scouted for the Tigers. In 1926 he coached the team at Albion College, and then retired to his farm on Duck Lake outside Albion.

On Oct. 31, 1936, at the age of 73, McGuire died of pneumonia and was buried at Riverside Cemetery in Albion. Atop his tombstone two slender bats re crossed in tribute to the young iron molder who became baseball's iron man.

Deacon McGuire is just one more of the famous sports figures whose lives and careers touched Terre Haute.

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Young Debs began as fireman on railroads, working for Hulman

NOV 0 8 1987 Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

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By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Terre Haute's most famous (or infamous) labor leader was Eugene V. Debs, charter member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen when it was organized here in 1875, and federal convict No. 9653 in the United States Prison at Atlanta, Ga.

Born Nov. 5, 1855, in Terre Haute, Eugene Victor Debs was one of 10 children of Jean Daniel Debs and his wife, Marguerite Bettrich Debs, both natives of Alsace. The father was born in 1820 at Colmar, Alsace, France, and left there in 1848 on a sailing ship bound for America, arriving Jan. 20, 1849, in New York City.

Marguerite Marie Bettrich left Colmar on Aug. 7, 1849, and arrived in New York on Sept. 11. They were married there two days later. On Sept. 30, 1850, they left New York to go to Cincinnati, Ohio, and left there May 20, 1851, to go to Terre Haute.

The Debs left Terre Haute on March 24, 1854, to return to New York to locate in Williamsburg, Long Island, now Brooklyn. That same year, they left Brooklyn on Sept. 25 to return to Terre Haute where they located permanently.

Six of the 10 children lived to become adults: brother Theodore and four sisters. A happy family, the parents passed on their love of their native France to their children. The father's library of French history and the books of Victor Hugo made a strong impression on young Eugene, especially Jean Val Jean in "Les Miserables."

The Civil War made its impression on young Debs. He saw the brave young soldiers march off to war to return (if they did return) as maimed, diseased, suffering veterans. His future stand against war was attributed to his observations of the War of the Rebellion and its aftermath.

The Debs children affectionately nicknamed their parents "Dandy" and "Daisy." Both parents died in 1906. They were very poor, with many children to support. Life was hard.

Born at 447 N. Fourth St., Eugene graduated from the old Seminary grade school, and at the age of 14 began working in the railroad shop to help support the family. He later became a locomotive fireman for the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad, which later became part of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Every night he took his lantern and left the house to work in the dangerous railroad yards. His mother feared for his safety when he worked as a fireman on the unballasted prairie railroad, but his dollar-a-day pay envelope was turned over to her unopened each week. She used it to feed and clothe the family.

His mother's influence caused him to take other employment in October 1874, when Herman Hulman offered him a job as clerk in the Hulman & Cox grocery. After five years as a grocery clerk, he ran for political office — the office of city clerk in September 1879 — and was elected. He held this office four years.

In 1885 he was elected to the state legislature and married Katherine Metzel. She was born in Pittsburgh of Kentucky parents. They did not have children. Their home was located at 451 N. Eighth St., and now is a museum.

Deb's life can be summed up briefly: Eugene V. Debs, 1855-1926, American Socialist leader. Advocate of industrial unionism and a pacifist; imprisoned 1895 for violating injunction in strike at Pullman, Ill., and in 1918 under Espionage Act. Presidential candidate five times on Socialist ticket (and unsuccessful all five times). Widely revered as martyr for his principles."

More recent books about Debs and his life reveal facets of his personality unknown previously to most local residents. Out of respect for his parents, many overlooked his love affairs, and tried to ignore the bad press that reflected on his hometown during times of labor violence. He continues to be a controversial man.

Anyone remember. . .?

Can anyone furnish the date for the ceremory held at Seventh and Wabash, downtown Terre Haute, in the mid-1930s to mark the completion of the crossroads of U.S. 40 and U.S. 41? Special music was written for the occasion. School children were involved.

Contact: Vigo County Historical Society, 1411 S. Sixth St., Terre Haute 47802.

people TH pas 1a

Movers and shakers

✓ Clark, Dorothy, A Biographical Collective

Patriots, politicians, prostitutes

MAR 27 1988

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

The history of any town is based on events and people. Both are important, but like the chicken and the egg, which came first and which is more important? From time to time, I've decided to write brief biographies of the movers and shakers of Terre Haute and the surrounding area. They are not listed in order of importance, nor alphabetically, just as I run across information of interest.

Maj. Abraham Markle (1770-1826) — One of the Original Town proprietors, Markle was a miller, soldier, and the first man to own real estate in the area. Land Warrant No. 1 was issued to him in 1816 as a reward for his service in the War of 1812. Leaving Canada, he rode a flat boat down the Allegheny, through the headwaters of the Ohio, and up the Wabash to Fort Harrison, arriving July 4, 1816. He built his mill on Otter Creek the next year.

Col. Francis Vigo (1740-1836) — Born in Mondovi, Italy, Vigo came to New Orleans during service with a Spanish regiment. He became a fur trader with the Indians in the Mississippi River area, became acquainted with George Rogers Clark and financed his campaign for the recapture of Vincennes. Vigo County is named for this Hoosier patriot who died a pauper when the government failed to repay his loans until after his death.

Chauncey Rose (1794-1877) — A native of Connecticut, Rose chose Terre Haute as his home after extended travel in 1818. A modern-day King Midas, his business successes enabled him to become one of this city's greatest benefactors. Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology was founded in 1874 by Rose. He founded the early railroads, owned the Prairie House, struck oil, founded the Rose Dispensary and the Rose Orphan's Home, and divided his estate to benefit the largest number.

Mother Theodore Guerin (1798-1856) — In 1840 Mother Theodore Guerin and her brave group of five Sisters of Providence traveled from France to the Hoosier wilderness to found what is now St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and the mother house for teaching nuns all over the world. She is credited with founding one of the most prominent institutions for higher learning for women in the United States.

Anton Hulman Jr. (1901-1977) — Grandson of Herman Hulman, founder in 1850 of the wholesale grocery and general merchandise business along with other local industries, Tony Hulman was known world-wide for his ownership of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. His generous philanthropic gifts to his community are too numerous to list here.

Max Ehrmann (1872-1945) — A graduate of DePauw University, Ehrmann wrote five plays, several volumes of poetry, and an essay titled "A Prayer" which he regarded as his best work. The recipient of a doctorate degree from Harvard University, Ehrmann practiced law in Terre Haute two years and served as deputy prosecuting attorney. He was born in Terre Haute and died here. Ehrmann is best remembered for his writing, "Desiderata."

Col. Richard W. Thompson (1809-1900) — Tracing his ancestry back to Revolutionary War patriots in Virginia, Thompson came to Indiana in 1831, taught school, clerked in a store, and studied law. Sent to the Indiana Legislature, he became known as an orator during the national campaign to elect William Henry Harrison. He came to Terre Haute in 1842, leaving here only to serve in the halls of Congress and as Secretary of the Navy in President Hayes' cabinet.

Paul Dresser (1858-1906) — The composer of Indiana's state song, "On The Banks of the Wabash, Far Away," Paul was born in Terre Haute at 318 S. Second St. His birthplace was moved to Fairbanks Park in 1963 and restored by the Vigo County Historical Society. One of the brightest lights of Tin Pan Alley during the Gay '90s, this native son is buried with his parents in St. Boniface Cemetery, Chicago.

Eugene V. Debs (1855-1926) — American Socialist and labor leader, Debs gained national notice in his efforts to organize railroad unions. Convicted for treason during World War I, he served

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time in prison for his part in transportation strike activities. He ran for president several times on the Socialist ticket but was not successful.

Madam Brown (1874-1956 — An Illinois farmer's daughter who came to Terre Haute in 1891, Edith Brown rose from hired girl to become one of Terre Haute's most infamous madams in the west end Tenderloin district. Over the years she operated houses of prostitution in several locations. Best known was her final business address at 206 N. Second St., which opened in 1918 and closed in 1942.

Julius Brittlebank (1859-1937) — Born in Terre Haute, the son of Julius and Martha J. (Whaley) Brittlebank, he was the grandson of Frank Brittlebank, British officer who became a sugar planter in British Guiana. The family came to this country when the slaves were emancipated. They became wealthy pork packers in Indiana. Julius rose from an office boy at the Hudnut Milling Co. to a director for 49 years of the American Hominy Co. A world traveler, he made his home after 1889 in Charleston, S.C. A wi' bequest left funds to Terre Haute to bu land for Brittlebank Park in his memor

on this dat

Buffalo Bill played local fairgrounds

Clark, Dorothy + Collection files

Ts MAY 1 8 1988

The legendary Buffalo Bill visited Terre Haute several times with his traveling Wild West show and played to huge crowds drawn from all over the Wabash Valley.

During the fourth season of the show it played at the Vigo County Fairgrounds on the afternoon of May 17-18 "rain or shine!" He did perform here many times after 1886 and drew huge crowds, once in 1908.

Tall, dark, handsome and fearless, William F. Cody was born in Iowa in 1846. The family moved to Kansas when he was 8. At the age of 11, after his father's death, he hired on as a messenger for a freight company in Kansas, going out with wagon trains and cattle drives.

He was fighting Indians at the age of 12, with less than a year of school. At 15, he was a star rider for the short-lived Pony Express, then served as a scout for the Kansas Jaywalkers, a band of antislavery guerrillas, on forays along the Arkansas River.

In 1864 he enlisted in the 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, engaging in skirmishes against the Confederates, and served as scout and dispatch bearer for Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman in Kansas.

Cody earned his moniker Buffalo Bill in 1867-68 when he shot, by his own boast, 4,280 of the huge beasts. His contract with the Kansas Pacific Railroad specified that he provide buffalo meat for the work gangs. In return he was paid $500 a month.

A popular jingle of the time was: "Buffalo Bill, Buffalo Bill, never misses and never will; Always aims and shoots to kill, and the company pays the buffalo bill."

From 1868 to 1872 he served as one of the finest scouts with the U.S. Army with his marksmanship and knowledge of the Western terrain.

In 1872 he led Gen. George Armstrong Custer, Gen. Philip Sheridan and the Grand Duke Alexis, son of the Czar of Russia, on a grand buffalo hunt. Every time the grand duke made a hit, champagne was broken out to celebrate.

America's first "media hero" chose to mythicize the old West and furnished the cowboy and Indian craze that was to last for years. In 1869, Ned Buntline's "Buffalo Bill, the King of Border Men," appeared, the first of more than 550 dime novels about the hero.

Cody himself began to exploit the legend. In 1872, he visited New York City and saw a play made from the Buntline book. Cody was persuaded to star in "Scouts of the Plains" which opened in Chicago that year.

In 1873 he formed his own theater company with Wild Bill Hickok and Texas Jack Omohundra. This company toured America for 11 years. Cody spent winters acting and scouted in the summers.

With the 5th Cavalry in eastern Wyoming, shortly after Custer's defeat at the Little Big Horn in 1876, Cody wore his black velvet Mexican stage costume. Spotting a group of Cheyennes at a distance, he led a surprise attack in which the Indian leader Yellow Hand was killed.

Collecting the chief's scalp, Cody held it up and yelled, "First scalp for Custer!" He later incorporated this melodramatic act in a stage presentation.

By 1879, Cody had published his memoirs and had begun to merchandise the Old West in earnest. In 1882, he organized an "Old Glory Blowout," a Fourth of July celebration in North Platte, Neb., the forerunner of his Wild West show which opened the next year in Omaha.

At first the show featured gunmanship, riding and roping, but later included enactments of episodes from Western life and history. Annie Oakley joined the troupe in 1884, and the Sioux chieftain Sitting Bull in 1885-86.

By 1893, Cody had added a "Congress of Rough Riders" made up of Bedouin Arabs, South American gauchos, Russian cossacks, American cowboys and Indians. He added living scenes from the Spanish-American War.

By 1913, when the show folded its tents forever, the peak staff of 640 had performed in a thousand cities and a dozen countries to some 50 million people. In 1893, its biggest year, Cody's show netted $1 million.

He died in 1917, after a string of farewell appearances and in debt from bad investments. He developed the town of Cody, Wyo., built hotels and a railroad line, promoted cattle ranching, land irrigation projects, made films and served as head of the Showman's League of America.

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Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column for 30 years. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Francis Vigo changed course of local history

Ts FEB 05 1989

George Rogers Clark met Col. Francis Vigo on Jan. 29, 1779. One historian has said that this date should be celebrated every year as another sort of Independence Day for this part of the country.

If they had not met, these two men who were so necessary to each other, the outcome of the Revolutionary War might have been very different. The United States might have been a feeble little republic skirting the Atlantic shore and running west to the Mississippi River, and its northern boundary would have been the Ohio River.

Imagine, if you can, what we know as Indiana being part of Canada, a British possession!

Francis Vigo was a Sardinian by birth, born in 1740 in Mondovi. He left home as a young man to join the Spanish army, going first to Havana, Cuba, and then to New Orleans, a Spanish possession at that time.

Vigo became an Indian trader soon after he left the army. At first, he was employed by wealthy New Orleans businessmen, but as he made his way up the Mississippi on to St. Louis, he soon engaged in the fur trade for himself. He became known as the "Spanish Merchant."

From St. Louis he traveled both east and west to trade with the Indians. He made the effort to learn their language and to understand Indian character and customs.

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By Dorothy J. Clark
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It was George Rogers Clark who asked Vigo how to win the red man's favor, and Col. Vigo replied, "Always tell them the truth, and they will tell you the truth."

When Vigo realized the danger threatening Gen. Clark and his army by the recapture of Vincennes by the British, he left his business at once and went to Kaskaskia to offer his help in the cause of American independence.

Clark commissioned Vigo to go to Vincennes and observe and report exact conditions as often as possible. Vigo took one servant and started off across the Illinois country. He was captured by a band of hostile Indians under the command of a British officer and charged with being a spy. He was taken to Vincennes and delivered to Gen. Hamilton.

On the way, Vigo managed to eat the paper that would have convicted him of the charge. Held on parole at the fort, he was not confined to a jail cell, only required to report daily to the commander.

Father Gibault was at Vincennes. He had previously been helpful to Clark and was deeply interested in Vigo's welfare. He made very effort to secure his release.

One Sunday morning in January after church services, he went to the fort at the head of all his parishioners and informed Hamilton that they would furnish no more supplies to the garrison until Vigo was freed.

Hamilton was a fair-minded man, and he had found no evidence against the prisoner Vigo. He realized he could not afford to forfeit the goodwill of the villagers. Vigo had claimed all along that he was a Spanish subject, and as a merchant he had a right to travel and trade among the Indians.

Vigo was released with no other condition than that he should "not do anything injurious to British interests on his way back to St. Louis."

Vigo left at once. As fast as possible he traveled down the Wabash River, down the Ohio River, and upriver to St. Louis where he had fulfilled his term of release to Gen. Hamilton.

Without even stopping to rest, he was again in his canoe and down river to Kaskaskia where he told Clark the exact state of affairs at Vincennes. It was this information that decided Clark's expedition to win back Vincennes from the British.

The inside story was strictly between Clark and Vigo. Vigo generously offered to furnish all the money he could spare to enable Clark to organize and lead his men to Vincennes.

The situation was desperate. For a large amount of money, Clark gave Vigo four drafts on the Financial Agent of Virginia, Oliver Pollock, then at New Orleans. These drafts amounted to $11,387.40 in 1779.

Vigo knew it would be quite some time before the loan could be repaid. The country was having a hard time to supply the army and carry on the Revolutionary War. But no one believed it would be nearly 100 years before the government would repay this money.

In time, Vigo became ill and confined to his home for five years. He needed his money. His business affairs failed, and he was reduced to poverty. His attorneys and friends helped all they could, but

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the government still didn't repay his loan.

On July 4, 1832, the people of Vigo County invited 92-year-old Vigo to visit here. This visit with its honors, parade, banquet, etc., undoubtedly influenced him when he made his will in 1834.

"Whereas, the county of Vigo has been named after me, and I feel towards it and its citizens a great degree of esteem . . . " he stated in his will. He directed that $500 be used to buy a bell for the Vigo County Courthouse when the government paid back the money he had loaned in 1779.

Col. Vigo died in Vincennes on March 22, 1836, aged 96 years. After his death the legal struggle continued for 40 more years until judgment was obtained. With nearly 100 years of interest added to the original amount, the debt totaled nearly $50,000.

After a few more appeals, the final judgment was rendered in 1875, and the money was paid in April 1876. Col. Vigo's bell was hung in the present courthouse in 1887.

Listen to this historic bell strike the hours, and be proud of our Hoosier heritage. Remember Col. Francis Vigo for whom our county is named, the great American patriot who gave so much to his beloved adopted country.

Theodore Dreiser

Terre Haute's son rose from despair to fame

Ts AUG 2 7 1989

Clark, Dorothy

Historically speaking

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By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Today is Theodore Dreiser's birthday. He was born in 1871 in Indiana. Some historians can furnish proof that it was in Sullivan, while others say (as he did himself) that he was born in Terre Haute. He was known to stretch the truth in his lifetime, so who's to say?

Ida M. Weygant in her small folder, "Inspirational Biographies," gives a different slant on the early life of this man. She wrote: "No writer's career has been more unpromising. The boy's parents were poor. His education was shabby. At 20 he was a bill collector, a thin young man, untrained and bashful.

"In 'Dawn,' Dreiser describes in detail and amazing truthfulness the years of his childhood and early youth. His father was broken by business failures at 40, and lost the spirit to provide for his ten children. Always a devout Catholic, he grew to be an intense one, and became more concerned in the souls of his children than in their bodies and future.

"The family knew poverty in its sternest realism. There were evenings when the family had only mush to eat without milk, and their fire was kept burning with coal that the children found along the railroad tracks. One of the poorest families in town, they were socially isolated with their destitute neighbors.

"Dreiser's mother took in washings, and he, with his brother, called for and delivered the laundry. It was difficult to find money for clothes, and one year, when winter came, Dreiser faced the humiliation of having no shoes to wear to school.

"Knowing despair as a child, it is not strange that Theodore Dreiser was a realistic writer. Tragedy was always near him in the lives of those who found refuge in the shacks of their town. There was the lonely death of a helpless old lady; the capture of a murderer who was boarding at their home.

"Dreiser writes that while very young he seemed to realize his mother's struggle for her children. When she married his father, she had only been sixteen, beautiful and eager for life. Soon she was burdened with many children to help provide for.

"But all through her suffering she was brave, always hopeful, giving warmth and beauty to the home. When she died, while Dreiser was in his teens, the children quarreled and divided, and Dreiser found himself in Chicago, not yet 20, ambitious to be a reporter.

"His first attempt to win the attention of a newspaper man was to send a few slight manuscripts to Eugene Field, then a famous columnist. There was no reply."

He applied for a job at every newspaper office in Chicago, but editors refused to hire him without education and experience. In despair, he went to work for a furniture house. His dream to be a reporter continued, and he decided to haunt the waiting room of the Chicago Daily Globe. Weeks passed. Finally he was allowed to help report a political election. It was the beginning of a long and successful reporting and editorial career.

Weygant told how "his experiences as a newspaper man threw him violently into the complexities of business and life. He rushed from gambling den to the home of a millionaire. He interviewed senators and thieves. He reported train wrecks and exclusive charity balls."

From all of these experiences he gathered material for stories. He became friendly with many aspiring writers. They encouraged him to read and study. He became interested in the stage and was appointed drama editor, but his reviews brought ridicule to the paper and he was fired.

Later he was to succeed as editor of The Delineator in New York. In 1900 he published "Sister Carrie" and began his career as a novelist, short story writer and dramatist. This first novel was the dramatized life story of one of his sisters. It was especially characteristic of him to use his friends, family members, and even his most personal experiences, as material for fiction.

Classified as one of America's rawest realists, Dreiser saw life as vibrant, dramatic, but ugly and tragic. He was obsessed with sex. Critics differed over the years as to his talents and contributions to American literature, but his play, "An American Tragedy," written in 1925, is still attracting attention.

Acquaintances of Dreiser during his boyhood and youth exclaimed, "Who would have thought it?" as his name appeared almost daily in the press.

Theodore Dreiser died Dec. 28, 1945, age 74, in southern California. The home of his parents in the 1850s where his oldest brother, Paul Dresser, composer, was born, was saved from demolition in its original location at 318 S. Second St. and moved by the Vigo County Historical Society to its present site in Fairbanks Park on Dresser Drive. It had no connection with Theodore other than that his parents lived there before he was born.

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☆ Clark, Dorothy

Portrait of a period

Interview sheds light on Terre Haute in 19th century

Ts MAR 08 1992

On the occasion of her 93rd birthday, Rhoda (Henry) Lovelace was interviewed by a Terre Haute Gazette reporter. She lived in Linton Township, 12 miles south of Terre Haute.

Born in Shelby County, Ky., on Buck Creek, Rhoda married Leonard Lovelace at the age of 19 years, and lived with him 20 years. She had been a widow 54 years.

George Washington was living in retirement at Mount Vernon when she was born. When asked her politics, she said she still was a Republican, and expected to be as long as she lived.

Rhoda joined the Missionary Baptist Church when she was 15, and had been a member of the Buck Creek Church for 77 years. She was baptized in Guesses Creek by the Rev. George Waller.

She spoke of a cousin who served in the war of 1812. Gen. Andrew Jackson was her second cousin, the cousin of her father, Benjamin Henry.

"Old Hickory, the Hero of New Orleans," was not her only hero.

Historically speaking

Clark retired as The Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County Historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

Her uncle, John Henry, fought in the Revolutionary War. Her own father was drafted, although only 14 years old, but didn't have to go as his brother took his place.

When her grandfather came to Kentucky, they lived in blockhouses. A cousin, John Henry, was captured by the Indians when he was a baby and was released when he was an adult. They killed his mother, but kept the boy to make him a warrior. He returned to civilization when he was grown.

Her grandmother was compelled to dry the scalp of her own child upon her feet before the fire after the Indians scalped and killed the child. For some reason, they did not kill the woman.

Old Dr. Knight, the family doctor, was condemned along with another man to be burned alive, but managed to escape while the Indians slept.

When asked if she could remember the first time she saw Terre Haute, Mrs. Lovelace gave a hearty laugh. "I should say I do. I nearly cried my eyes out I was so disappointed. We had been told that Terre Haute was such a beautiful city, a very garden of Eden, but of all miserable, mean places I ever saw, Terre Haute was that place."

She liked good music, singing, the fiddle and organ. Her eyesight was very good. It must have been, as she still knitted her own stockings.

On her birthday, she cooked an old-fashioned dinner in the fireplace, using pots, skillets and dutch ovens. She remarked that if she had some still-house yeast and good flour, she could make bread that was as good as any ever eaten.

Described as 5 feet 2 inches tall, slender, and quick on her feet, she had never experienced arthritis. She enjoyed company, and Mr. and Mrs. James B. French of Youngstown came in while the news reporter was there.

The yellowish clipping is undated, but a clue to a possible dateline is the mention of the coming election of Benjamin Harrison. He had Mrs. Lovelace's full support, and she planned to vote for him. She only wished she could "vote by word of mouth as they used to do."

Harrison was president from 1889 to 1893, so this interview must have taken place sometime before 1889.

If any reader has further knowledge of Rhoda Henry Lovelace, they are invited to call or write and share information. How long did she live? Did she have any children?

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1993
★ Clark, Dorothy (t) ★ [illegible]
TS 3/28/93

Johnny Appleseed legend in Midwest

Historically speaking

Clark retired as the Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

It was from the debris of commercial cider mills that John Chapman, known to generations of schoolchildren as Johnny Appleseed, collected his raw material (the pressing process left the apple seeds intact).

John Chapman, that grand old man of American apples, was born in a cabin in Leominster, Mass., in 1774, a generation too late to participate in the stirring events of the Revolutionary decade. The gap was more than filled, however, by his father, Nathaniel, who served as one of the original Minutemen, fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill and spent a bitter winter with General Washington at Valley Forge.

Young Johnny seems to have left Leominster at the age of 18 and started meandering west. Historical rumor has it that he spent several years in Pennsylvania, where he may have planted his first apple trees along Big Brokenstraw Creek near the town of Warren.

By 1801, he was in Ohio distributing appleseeds, at the beginning of a long career of gentle and generous oddity. He was renowned for his kindness to living things — he refused to eat meat or ride horseback and would douse his campfire if mosquitoes fell into it — and for his bizarre wardrobe, which included the tin pan hats of the picture books and often an old coffee sack worn as a shirt, with holes cut for arms and neck.

And, of course, for his life's work, summed up in his own words in a will written in the 1830s: "I, John Chapman (by occupation a gatherer and planter of appleseeds) . . ."

The appleseeds were planted in small nurseries scattered across Ohio and Indiana, which Johnny periodically visited and tended, and from which he passed on established apple seedlings to newly arrived settlers. The apples must have been a mixed bag, because Johnny spurned the practice of grafting as abusive and painful to the tree, and apples do not breed true to seed.

Johnny's own favorite apple, sternly propagated back east by grafts, is said to have been the Rambo — which, despite its modern cinematic associations with machine guns and mayhem, probably derives innocently from the French "Rambour," which in turn comes from the town of Rambures, where these apples were originally grown.

John Chapman was certainly not the first to bring apples to the Midwest — the French had introduced them to the Great Lakes region and upper Mississippi more than a century previously — but, according to historian Edward Hoagland, he had the enviable demographic knack of anticipating the pattern of frontier settlement. Johnny's apple trees were always in the right place at the right time. When the first homesteaders pulled in, Johnny was already there, a horticultural Kilroy, ready with transplantable saplings.

As well as apple trees, Johnny planted and distributed medicinal herbs, among them pennyroyal, catnip, horehound, rattlesnake root, wintergreen, and the evil-smelling mayweed, which spoiled the taste of milk if eaten by cows. Johnny believed — erroneously — that it prevented malaria and urged that it be planted in every cabin dooryard. In his honor, families along the new frontier referred to this odoriferous offering as "Johnnyweed."

It remains unknown why John Chapman devoted his life to his self-appointed apple mission. If anyone ever asked him, the answer was not passed along. Whatever the reason, his obsession made him, next to Adam and Eve and their talking snake, the greatest of apple legends.

He died in Indiana in 1845, of pneumonia acquired on a 15-mile hike through the chill of mid-March to repair one of his apple nursery fences, which had been broken down by hungry cattle.

(Excerpted from "Red Oaks & Black Birches: The Science & Lore of Trees," by Rebecca Rupp, copyrighted 1990 by Storey Communications, Pownal, Vt.)

☆ ☆ ☆

An unknown pioneer man born in 1864 in Indiana is reported to have made the first blackboard in a log school where they had always used individual slates and slate-pencils. The pencils often dropped, and when they hit a crack in the rough floors, they were lost.

He had read about a slating liquid that could be painted on wood, so he made two boards one foot by eight feet, nailed them together, and painted them with black slating and nailed them to the log wall.

For writing on this "blackboard," he used half spheres of chalk. The first time he called upon a student to use the new blackboard, the child cried, saying it was too public. Later he was able to get chalk in stick form.

This inventive young teacher of the backwoods hired out for the summer at the age of 17 years, cradling wheat for $13 per month. Harvest work was usually 50 cents a day up to 1881. Threshing was a dollar a day and board.

Trimming a hedge with a corn knife earned $1.50 a day, while corn cutting brought only 11 cents per shock, which consisted of 14 hills by 14 hills, a square in other words.

He herded sheep, milked cows, shucked corn, then sharpened fence posts until time to plow for more corn.

When asked what was raised in his home county, he replied, "Fruit and lumber." What kind of fruit and lumber? Pumpkins and hoop-poles!

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